



RESPONSE TO NOTIFICATION OF NON-COMPLIANT APPEAL BRIEF Mailed August 18, 2005

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences**

(LHTLG No. 00,500)

In the Application of:

McDonald, Patrick D.

Serial No. **09/698,905**

Filing Date: **October 27, 2000**

For: **Method and System For Processing
Unclaimed Property Information**

Mail Stop: **Appeal**
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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) Examiner: **Ackers, Geoffery**
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) Group Art Unit: **3625**
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) Confirmation No. **8219**
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RESPONSE TO NOTIFICATION OF NON-COMPLIANT APPEAL BRIEF

Mailed August 18, 2005

Applicant responds to the Notification of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief mail August 18, 2005, with an amended Appeal Brief including portions under 37 C.F.R. 41.37 requested by the Examiner.

The amended Appeal Brief was due within one month or 30 days, from the date of mail of August 18, 2005, or by September 18, 2005. Since the 30th day, September 18, 2005, fell on Sunday, the Applicant is responding under 37 C.F.R. 1.7(a) on the next business day, Monday, September 19, 2005.

No extensions of time or additional fees are required. If an extension of time or fee is required, please consider this a petition therefor and authorization to charge the fees to Deposit Account No. **50-2281** for the **Lesavich High-Tech Law Group, P.C. (32097)**.

September 19, 2005

Lesavich High-Tech Law Group, P.C.

Stephen Lesavich, PhD
Reg. No. 43,749



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences
(LHTLG No. 00,500)

In re Application of:)
)
Patrick D. McDonald)
) Art Unit: 3625
Serial No. 09/698,905)
) Examiner: Akers, Geoffrey
Filed: October 27, 2000)
) Confirmation No. 8219
For: Method and System for)
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Information)

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PATENT APPEAL BRIEF

37 C.F.R. §41.37

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BRIEF OF APPELLANT

This is a Patent Appeal Brief submitted under 37 C.F.R. § 41.37 to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences from the third rejection of all of the claims of the application. This Appeal Brief is accompanied by the requisite fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 41.20(b)(2) for a small entity under 37 C.F.R. § 1.27(a). The Notice of Appeal under 37 C.F.R. § 41.31 was filed on April 19, 2005.

REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The Appellant, Patrick D. McDonald, is the real-party in interest.

RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

There are no related appeals and interferences known to the Appellant.

STATUS OF CLAIMS

The status of the claims is as follows:

1. Claims at filing: 1-26
2. Claims amended on September 9, 2004, 1,3-8, 10-12, 18 and 25 based on agreements made during an Examiner Interview.
3. Claims pending: 1-26.
4. Claims rejected: 1-26.
5. Claims allowed: None.

Thus, the claims on appeal are claims 1-26.

STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

All amendments filed in the application have been entered as understood by the Appellant.

SUMMARY OF THE CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

Independent Claim 1 recites a method (Method 50, FIG. 2) for acquiring unclaimed property information, comprising: (FIG. 2, 52) automatically (page 16, lines 9-14) obtaining periodically (FIG. 1, 12, 14, page 11, line 21 through page 12, line 14, page 17, line 21 through page 18, line 3, FIG. 5, 80, 86, page 25, line 19 through page 26, line 4, page 26, lines 19-23) a plurality of unclaimed property information (FIG. 1, CD-ROM, tape, database) from a plurality of unclaimed property repositories (FIG. 1, 24, 26, 28, 30, Page 11, line 21 through Page 12, line 14), wherein the plurality of unclaimed property information is maintained in a plurality of different formats (CD-ROMS, computer tapes, other computer readable formats, FIG. 1, Page 12, line 15 through page 13, line 10) by the plurality of unclaimed property repositories (FIG. 1, 24, 26, 28, 30, page 11, line 11 through page 12, line 14, Table 1, FIG. 5, 80, page 25, line 9, through page 26, line 3); (FIG. 2, 54) automatically transforming (FIG. 1, 12, 14, 22) the plurality of unclaimed property information maintained in the plurality of different formats into a unified database format (FIG. 1, 18, 20, page 13, line 11 through page 15, lines 17, Table 2, page 16, line 9, through page 17, line 20, FIG. 5, 80, 86 page 25, line 9, through page 26, line 3, page 26, lines 19-23) thereby creating transformed unclaimed property information (FIG. 1, 18, 20, page 13, line 11 through page 15, line 17, Table 2); and (FIG. 2, 54) automatically creating a plurality of database records in an unclaimed property database (FIG. 1, 18, 20, FIG. 5, 86, page 26, lines 19-23) with the transformed unclaimed property information using the unified database format

(page 15, line 18 through page 16 line 21, Table 2, FIG. 5, 80, 86 page 25, line 9, through page 26, line 3, page 26, lines 19-23).

Independent Claim 12 recites a method (FIG. 3, 58) of locating owners (FIG. 1, 40) of unclaimed property, comprising: (FIG. 3, 60) (a) reading a database record from an unclaimed property database (FIG. 1, 12, 14, 22, 18, 20, FIG. 5 84, 86, page 18, line 20 through page 19, line 5, page 26, lines 19-23), wherein the unclaimed property database (FIG. 1, 18, 20, FIG. 5, 86) includes a plurality of database records automatically created (FIG. 2, Method 50, page 16, lines 9-14) from a plurality of unclaimed property information from a plurality of unclaimed property repositories (FIG. 1, 24, 26, 28, 30), and wherein the unclaimed property information is stored in a unified database format in the unclaimed property database (18, 20, FIG. 1, FIG. 2, Method 50, FIG. 5, 80, 88, page 25, line 9, through page 26, line 3, page 26, lines 19-23); (FIG. 3, 62) (b) determining whether an owner (FIG. 1, 40) of unclaimed property identified (FIG. 5, 82, page 26, lines 4-9) in the database record can be automatically located by searching one or more other databases (FIG. 1, 18, 20, 34, 36, 38, page 19, line 5 through page 22, line 1) on public and private computer networks (FIG. 1, 16, 32); and if so, (FIG. 3, 64) (c) notifying automatically (FIG. 1, 42, 44, 46) an owner (FIG. 1, 40) of unclaimed property as to the existence and amount of unclaimed property; and (FIG. 3, 66, page 21, lines 5-19) (d) repeating steps (a) and (b) for unique records in the unclaimed property database (FIG. 1, 18, 20, page 22, lines 2-11).

Independent Claim 19 recites a method (FIG. 4, 68) for automatically requesting disbursement of unclaimed property (FIG. 1, 18, 20), comprising: (FIG. 4,

70) providing a graphical user interface (FIG. 1, 12, 14, 42, FIG. 5, 88) available on a computer network (FIG. 1, 16, 32) that allows an identified owner (FIG. 1, 40, FIG. 5, 82) of unclaimed property (FIG. 1, 18, 20) to request unclaimed property (FIG. 1, 18, 20, FIG. 5, 82, 86) (page 23, lines 4-11, page 27, lines 1-3, page 26, lines 4-9); (FIG. 4, box 72) electronically collecting (FIG. 1, 42, 32, 22, 16, 18, 20) appropriate information required by one or more unclaimed property repositories (FIG. 1, 24, 26, 28, 30) to disburse unclaimed property (FIG. 1, 18, 20) and a fee via the graphical user interface (FIG. 1, 42, FIG. 5, 88) from an identified owner (FIG. 1, 40) of unclaimed property (FIG. 1, 18, 20); (FIG. 4, 74) electronically processing necessary forms for the one or more unclaimed property repositories (FIG. 1, 24, 26, 28, 30, FIG. 5, 82, 84, 86) for the identified owner (FIG. 1, 40) of unclaimed property (FIG. 1, 18, 20) using the collected information; (FIG. 4, 76) requesting automatically with the electronically processed forms that unclaimed property (FIG. 1, 18, 20) from the one or more unclaimed property repositories (FIG. 1, 24, 26, 28, 30) for the identified owner (FIG. 1, 40) be disbursed to the identified owner (FIG. 1, 40) of unclaimed property.

Independent claim 25 recites an unclaimed property network system (FIG. 5, 78), comprising in combination: an unclaimed property acquisition module (FIG. 5, 80) for (FIG. 2, Method 50) automatically (page 16, lines 9-14) obtaining periodically (FIG. 1, 12, 14, page 11, line 21 through page 12, line 14, page 17, line 21 through page 18, line 3, FIG. 5, 80, 86, page 25, line 19 through page 26, line 4, page 26, lines 19-23) a plurality of unclaimed property information (FIG. 1, CD-ROM, tape, database) from a plurality of unclaimed property repositories (FIG. 1, 24, 26, 28, 30,

Page 11, line 21 through Page 12, line 14), wherein the plurality of unclaimed property information is maintained in a plurality of different formats (CD-ROMS, computer tapes, other computer readable formats, FIG. 1, Page 12, line 15 through page 13, line 10) by the plurality of unclaimed property repositories (FIG. 1, 24, 26, 28, 30, page 11, line 11 through page 12, line 14, Table 1, FIG. 5, 80, page 25, line 9, through page 26, line 3); (FIG. 2, 54) automatically transforming (FIG. 1, 12, 14, 22) the plurality of unclaimed property information maintained in the plurality of different formats into a unified database format (FIG. 1, 18, 20, page 13, line 11 through page 15, lines 17, Table 2, page 16, line 9, through page 17, line 20, FIG. 5, 80, 86 page 25, line 9, through page 26, line 3, page 26, lines 19-23) thereby creating transformed unclaimed property information (FIG. 1, 18, 20, page 13, line 11 through page 15, line 17, Table 2), and (FIG. 2, 54) automatically creating a plurality of database records in an unclaimed property database (FIG. 1, 18, 20, FIG. 5, 86, page 26, lines 19-23) with the transformed unclaimed property information using the unified database format (page 15, line 18 through page 16 line 21, Table 2, FIG. 5, 80, 86 page 25, line 9, through page 26, line 3, page 26, lines 19-23); an unclaimed property identification module (FIG. 3, Method 58, FIG. 5, 82) for reading a database record from an unclaimed property database (FIG. 1, 18, 20), determining whether an owner (FIG. 1, 40) of unclaimed property identified in the database record can be automatically located by searching one or more other databases (FIG. 1, 34, 36, 38) on public and private computer networks (FIG. 1, 16, 32), and if so, notifying automatically (FIG. 1 42, 44, 46), an owner (FIG. 1, 40) of unclaimed property as to the existence and amount of unclaimed property (FIG. 3,

66, page 21, lines 5-19); an unclaimed property disbursement module (FIG. 4, Method 68, steps 72-76, FIG. 5, 84) for electronically collecting appropriate information required by one or more unclaimed property repositories (FIG. 1, 24, 26, 28, 30) to disburse unclaimed property and a fee via a graphical user interface (FIG. 5, 88, FIG. 1, 12, 14, 42) from an identified owner (FIG. 1, 40) of unclaimed property, electronically processing (FIG. 1, 12, 14, 22) necessary forms for the one or more unclaimed property repositories (FIG. 1, 24, 26, 28, 30) for the identified owner (FIG. 1, 40) of unclaimed property using the collected information, and requesting automatically with the electronically processed forms that unclaimed property from the one or more unclaimed property repositories (FIG. 1, 24, 26, 28, 30) for the identified owner (FIG. 1, 40) be disbursed (FIG. 4, 76) to the identified owner of unclaimed property; an unclaimed property database module (FIG. 5, 86, FIG. 2, Method 50) for automatically storing a plurality of unclaimed property information in an unclaimed property database (FIG. 18, 20) in a unified database format (Table 2); and a graphical user interface (FIG. 5, 88, FIG. 1, 12, 14, 22, 42, FIG. 4, step 70) available on a computer network (FIG. 1, 16, 32) that allows an identified owner (FIG. 1, 40) of unclaimed property to request unclaimed property via the unclaimed property disbursement module (FIG. 5, 84).

The dependent claims include additional features not claimed in the independent claims identified by the same figures, numerals and text cited above for the independent claims.

GROUPING OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-26 stand and fall together. A current listing of Claims 1-26 is included in the Claims Appendix.

ISSUES PRESENTED FOR REVIEW

1. Whether Examiner Akers violated Patent Office rules and procedures by ignoring an agreement made by the Appellant with Examiner Thompson during a phone interview conducted with the Appellant.
2. Whether claims 1-7, 10-11, 25-26 are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Borland Paradox for Windows, User's Guide, hereinafter, "Paradox."
3. Whether claims 8-9, 12-24 are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) over Borland in view of Office Notice.
4. Whether claims, 2, 13 and 30, computer readable medium claims, are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being non-statutory subject matter.

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4. Whether claims, 2, 13 and 30, computer readable medium claims, are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being non-statutory subject matter.

ARGUMENT for ISSUE 1

Examiner Forest Thompson, who originally was handling the Appellant's application rejected all of the Appellant's claims under 35 U.S.C. §102 and §103 over Paradox. Examiner Thompson initially asserted the Appellant was simply trying to patent a database, when in fact the Appellant was trying to patent a method and system for automatically and periodically obtaining, processing and storing unclaimed property information in a database and using the unclaimed property information to automatically notify owners of unclaimed property information via computer networks such as the Internet.

In a telephone interview with Examiner Forest Thompson on August 23, 2004, the Appellant distinguished the claimed invention over Paradox to the satisfaction of Examiner Thompson. The Appellant explained to Examiner Thompson that the Appellant was not trying to simply patent a database and that claimed invention included implicit automated acquisition, processing and use of unclaimed property information with database components (See Appellant's Application FIG. 1 and FIG. 2 and related text).

However, Examiner Thompson requested, and the Appellant agreed, to amend the claims to make the automated processing of unclaimed property information explicit with the understanding that all of the Examiner's rejections with respect to the Paradox reference would be overcome. Even though the Appellant felt such claim amendments were unnecessary, the Appellant agreed to amend the claims as requested by Examiner Thompson. The Appellant considered

such amendments part of typical negotiations completed during prosecution of a patent application to move a patent application towards allowance.

Examiner Forest Thompson indicated that if the claims were amended as discussed during the phone interview, the claims would be clearly distinguished over Paradox and both the Section 102 and Section 103 rejections would be immediately withdrawn. (See Page 3 of the Interview Summary mailed August 25, 2004 in Evidence Appendix). Examiner Thompson also indicated that he would conduct a new search based his new understanding of the invention based on the amended claims to ensure that no other prior art references included automated acquisition and processing of unclaimed property information. The Appellant, in good faith and relying on the word of Examiner Thompson filed an amendment and response on September 9, 2004 along with a Request for Continuing Examination (RCE). It is the Appellant's understanding that Examiner Thompson has left or retired from the Patent Office.

In the Office Action Mailed October 22, 2004, the Appellant was very surprised and disappointed to see that Examiner's Akers, a new examiner assigned to the application, ignored Examiner Thompson's written agreement with the Appellant and simply maintained the Section 102 and Section 103 rejections over the Borland Paradox reference and added a Section 101 rejection that doesn't make much sense based on current patent rules and controlling case law. Examiner Akers also did not conduct a new search as was also indicated in the interview summary by Examiner Thompson. The Appellant tried to reach Examiner Akers but Examiner

Akers has returned none of the Appellant phone calls. The Appellant tried to reach the Examiner's Supervisor, but she returned none of the Appellant's phone calls.

Examiner Akers asserted in the last Office Action mailed October 22, 2004, (See Evidence Appendix) reinstating the original rejections that "automating a known process is not a basis for novelty." However, as was just discussed above, the Appellant's claimed invention was implicitly automatic anyway (See FIG. 1 and FIG. 2 and accompanying text) and the Appellant simply amended the claims to include an explicit indication of this automation. In fact, after making that assertion, Examiner Akers goes on to admit that "obtaining information and data electronically encompasses the feature of automatically performing the operation." Thus, even Examiner Akers appeared to understand the Appellant's invention was implicitly automatic before the claim amendments based on his statements. This admission about automation also distinguishes the Appellant's invention over Paradox, a manual database tool in the Examiner's own words.

The Appellant submits that Examiner Akers violated patent office rules, especially MPEP §713.01 which clearly states *"Sometimes the examiner who conducted the interview is transferred to another Technology Center or resigns, and the examination is continued by another examiner. If there is an indication that an interview had been held, the second examiner should ascertain if any agreements were reached at the interview. Where conditions permit, as in the absence of a clear error or knowledge of other prior art, the*

second examiner should take a position consistent with the agreements previously reached.”

An agreement clearly had been reached between the Appellant and Examiner Thompson. There was an interview summary in the prosecution history, although Examiner Ackers made no indication he reviewed the interview summary. If Examiner Ackers read the interview summary, based on Examiner Akers comments in the Office Action, there was also no indication of clear error on the part of Examiner Thompson, an experienced patent examiner who spent a long career at the patent office before leaving or retiring. Examiner Ackers also did not provide any knowledge of other prior art, or any other prior art at all. In addition, Examiner Akers did not conduct another search as Examiner Thompson indicated in writing to the Appellant would be done. Examiner Ackers simply sent out another office action repeating the previous rejections and adding a new Section 101 rejection with virtually no additional commentary.

Examiner Ackers also appears to be unfamiliar with the correct application of patent rules and the current case law with respect to patentable subject matter for computer related inventions as is explained below.

The Appellant had a written agreement Examiner Thompson. Examiner Ackers breached that agreement. The Appellant would not have amended the claims at all and would have appealed the original claims to the Appeals Board if an agreement could not have been reached with Examiner Thompson.

Breaching such written agreements made with examiners is a violation of the patent rules, detrimental to the patent process and is unequitable to the Appellant. Applicants for patent applications have to be able to trust and rely upon agreements reach with the Patent Office. Otherwise, there is no reason to allow examiners to conduct interview with patent applicants or an applicant to amend any claims at all without taking every rejection immediately to appeal.

CONCLUSION FOR ISSUE 1

Based on these remarks, the Appellant now requests the Appeal Board instruct the Examiner to immediately withdraw all rejections and immediately pass all the claims to allowance.

ARGUMENT FOR ISSUE 2

(1) A claim is anticipated under 35 U.S.C. §102 if and only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described in a single prior art reference. *Verdegall Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631 (Fed. Cir. 1987).

(2) To make a *prima case* of anticipation under 35 U.S.C. §102, the identical invention must shown in as complete detail in a single prior art reference as is contained in the allegedly anticipated claim. *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 1236 (Fed. Cir. 1989).

**I. EACH AND EVERY CLAIM ELEMENT OF THE CLAIMS ARE NOT
FOUND IN PARADOX.**

Claim 1 is used to argue the Appellant's position. The same arguments apply to the Appellant's other claims 2-26. Claim 1 of the Application recites automatically obtaining periodically a plurality of unclaimed property information from a plurality of unclaimed property repositories, wherein the plurality of unclaimed property information is maintained in a plurality of different formats by the plurality of unclaimed property repositories; automatically transforming the plurality of unclaimed property information maintained in the plurality of different formats into a unified database format, thereby creating transformed unclaimed property information; and automatically creating a plurality of database records in an unclaimed property database with the transformed unclaimed property information using the unified database format.

The Appellant has traversed all of the Examiners' assertions in all of the previous office actions and clearly explained the Appellant's invention to the Examiners. The Examiners provided only a *small portion* of the Paradox manual (specifically pages i-xi, and pages 31-32, 107-110, 151-153, 253-258, 269-275, 308-312, 409-411) that was used to assert the Examiner's position. The Appellant submits to the Appeals Board that using the Examiners' logic to reject the Appellant's invention over Paradox just because the Appellant's invention includes claim elements with database components, then any invention that included any database components should also have been rejected over Paradox. Clearly this is not what the Patent

Office did (or could have done under the patent rules) as there are huge numbers of issued patents that include database components that were not rejected over Paradox. The Appellant submits following arguments once again for review by the Appeals Board.

a. Paradox does not *expressly or inherently* describe the specific claim limitation of Claim 1 of unclaimed property information. In fact nowhere in the Paradox reference supplied by the Examiner is the claim limitation unclaimed property information, or any manipulation thereof, described or even mentioned. Paradox is a general purpose database tool that requires a user execute many manual steps to a select few types of input data that are stored in different internal formats. Paradox does not anywhere expressly or inherently mention any steps of automatically and periodically acquiring, manipulating unclaimed property information, or automatically locating owner's of unclaimed property information. If Paradox can accomplish the Appellant's invention, the reference itself does not expressly or inherently describe it. Thus, Paradox cannot anticipate Claim 1 under the holding of *Verdegall Bros.*

b. Paradox does not *expressly or inherently* teach the claim limitation including automatically obtaining periodically a plurality of unclaimed property information from a plurality of unclaimed property repositories, wherein the plurality of unclaimed property information is maintained in a plurality of different formats by the plurality of unclaimed property repositories.

In addition, Paradox describes many database features that are very different from the Appellant's invention (i.e., teach away from the Appellant's invention) including several features the Appellant's invention was in part created to overcome. For example, In Chapter 10, of Paradox (See Evidence Appendix), entitled "Exchanging Data," Paradox teaches only three specific types of data can be manually input: (1) spreadsheets; (2) delimited text files; and (3) fixed length text files (Page 269).

First, to import spread sheet data, a user is required to manually open a spreadsheet import dialog box, manually enter a spreadsheet name, manually enter a table the spreadsheet data will be imported to, manually type a range of data in a spreadsheet block to import. (See Figure 10.9 on Page 269). Even then, Paradox only allows specific blocks of data stored in a spreadsheet to be imported. Paradox specifically states "you can select only a specific block in the spreadsheet to import" (See Page 270, next to light-bulb graphic).

Second, Paradox allows data to be manually input from a delimited text file. In a delimited text file, Paradox expects fields to be ASCII format to be separated by commas, with quotation marks, surrounding each field. A user is required to manually enter a file name and manually choose <Delimited Text> from the File Type drop-down list. (See page 271 and Figure 10.11).

Finally, Paradox allows data to be manually imported from a fixed-length text file. For fixed length text files, Paradox requires text fields of defined lengths. A user is required to manually enter a file name, then manually choose <Fixed

Length Text> from the File Type drop-down list. For each named field, a user must enter a Start position (the column where the user wants the field value to begin) and a Length of the field (the field size) (See Page 272).

Thus, Paradox does not describe expressly or inherently any automatic or periodic collection of plural different types unclaimed property information from plural different unclaimed property repositories. In addition, Paradox only accepts data manually imported in a few selected formats (spreadsheets, delimited text and fixed-length text) all of which require several manual steps by a user to properly import the data and the different types of data are stored in different internal formats (Table 10.3 and Figure 10.9 for spreadsheets, Figures 10.10 and 10.11 for delimited text, Figure 10.12 for fixed-length text) not a unified database formats. Therefore, Paradox cannot anticipate this claim element of Claim 1 under the holding of *Verdegall Bros.*

c. Paradox does not *expressly or inherently* teach the claim limitation including automatically transforming the plurality of unclaimed property information maintained in the plurality of different formats into a unified database format, thereby creating transformed unclaimed property information; and automatically creating a plurality of database records in an unclaimed property database with the transformed unclaimed property information using the unified database format.

Paradox instead teaches different types of input data are stored in several different types of internal formats. Paradox describes that when a block of a

spreadsheet is imported, specific default conversion rules are followed (whether they fit the user's requirements or not). Paradox suggests that a user manually edit spreadsheet data before importing it to eliminate any ambiguities that might occur based on the default conversion rules.

Paradox clearly states the user is required to manually edit (i.e., manually pre-process) the spreadsheet block: (1) to remove extraneous entries (such as hyphens, asterisks and exclamation points); (2) to make sure each column contains only one kind of data and uses only one formatting option; and (3) place column titles in the top row of the selected range, because Paradox use the first row that contains text to generate field names (See Page 270). Spreadsheet data is transformed into Paradox alpha, short, numeric, money and dates internal field types, a first internal Paradox format.

In direct contrast, the Appellant's invention was created in part to automatically acquire and manipulate unclaimed property information in many different formats without manual editing and automatically convert it and store it in a unified database format without placing such burdens on a user.

In addition, the automatic transforming step of Claim 1 is further clarified in dependent Claim 6, for example, by teaching the transforming step further includes automatically deleting duplicate or incomplete entries from the plurality of unclaimed property information. This claim limitation also teaches away from the "normal" operation of Paradox which requires a user manually locate, then remove extraneous entries on their own.

For delimited text, Paradox expects fields in ASCII format to be separated by commas, with quotation marks, surrounding each field (See Page 271). Delimited text data is transformed into Paradox data fields based on the fields used in the delimited text file (See Page 271). A second type of internal Paradox format, different than that for spreadsheets.

For fixed-length text, Paradox creates database files (e.g., IMPORT.DB file) on the user computer for which a user must manually define the structure of a new internal table. The user then manually enters field names and types of fields for a new Paradox table. For each field name, a Start position and length are manually entered. (See Pages 272 and 273). This is a third type of internal Paradox format, different than that for spreadsheets or for delimited text files.

Paradox describes three different types of non-uniform formats used internally, all different, one for a block of a spreadsheet, one for a delimited text file and one for fixed-length text file. Thus, Paradox does not describe the claim limitation of automatically storing plural different types of unclaimed property information in a unified database format.

Therefore, Paradox does not describe each and every element as set forth in this element of Claim 1 either expressly or inherently and the 102(b) rejection is clearly improper under the holding of *Verdegall Bros.* Therefore, the Section 102(b) rejection should be immediately withdrawn.

II. THE IDENTICAL INVENTION IS NOT SHOWN BY PARADOX.

Paradox clearly does not show the identical invention in as complete detail as is contained in an allegedly anticipated Claim 1. As was described in section I above, Paradox is a general purpose database that requires many manual user input steps and stores different types of input data in different internal formats. The portion of the Paradox reference as supplied by the Patent Office does not make any mention whatsoever to automatically obtaining and processing unclaimed property information from plural different sources in plural different formats and automatically converting the unclaimed property information into a unified database format.

Paradox teaches the contrary as was discussed above. Several manual steps are required for different types of input data, each of which is stored in a different internal format not a uniform internal format. In addition, Paradox was developed and sold as a general database tool and not a tool to perform a method for automatically acquiring and processing unclaimed property information. Even if Paradox could be programmed to perform the Appellant's invention, the reference itself does not expressly describe how to do it. None of the Examiners have provided any plausible explanation of how Paradox can inherently be programmed to perform the Appellant's invention (which it can not based on the portion of the Paradox reference supplied by the Examiner). Thus, the Section 102(b) rejection is also clearly improper under the holding of *Richardson* as well.

CONCLUSION FOR ISSUE 2

Based on these remarks, Paradox does not describe every element as set forth in the claimed invention either expressly or inherently and does not show the identical invention as the claimed invention. Thus, this single reference, Paradox cannot anticipate the claimed invention. Therefore, the Examiner has not established a *prima facie* case of anticipation under §102(b). The Appellant now requests the Appeal Board instruct the Examiner to immediately withdraw the §102(b) rejections with respect to Claims 1-7, 10-11 and 25-26 based on the holdings of both *Verdegall Bros. and Richardson*. Since these claims are not anticipated they should be immediately allowable in their present form.

ARGUMENT for ISSUE 3

- (1) To establish *prima facie* obviousness of a claimed invention in the first place, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. *In re Royka*, 490 F.2d 981 (CCPA 1974); and all words in a claim must be considered in judging the patentability of that claim against the prior art. *In re Wilson*, 424 F.2d 1382, 1385 (CCPA 1970).

**I. NOT ALL OF THE CLAIM LIMITATIONS ARE TAUGHT, SUGGESTED
OR EVEN MENTIONED BY PARADOX IN VIEW OF OFFICIAL NOTICE.**

With respect to Claims 8-9 and 12-18 the Examiner admitted "Paradox does not specifically disclose create a plurality of pass through database records; reading the database information to determine contact information relative to the database information; or using the contact information to provide automatic notifications; electronically collecting appropriate information required by one or more service providers (e.g., unclaimed property repositories) to disburse unclaimed property; nor electronically collecting a fee" (See Page 4, First Office Action, mailed September 5, 2003).

With respect to Claims 21-24, The Examiner also admitted "Paradox does not specifically disclose the fee is electronically collected automatically for a credit card, or electronically deducted from a checking or savings account. (See Pages 6-7, First Office Action, mailed September 5, 2003).

After making these admissions, the Examiner took Official Notice of the admissions, that these claim elements were old and well known at the time the Appellant filed the patent application, which the Appellant traversed.

First, all of the arguments for Paradox not describing all of the elements to anticipate Claim 1 for unclaimed property information as was discussed above, are incorporated by reference and apply here as well for the obviousness rejection.

Second, Paradox does not teach, suggest or even mention the specific claim limitation unclaimed property information. In fact, there isn't a single issued U.S.

Patent as searched at the USPTO website at *uspto.gov* that the Appellant can find that even mentions the claim limitation “unclaimed property information,” or automatic acquiring and processing of unclaimed property information, period.

Third, as was discussed above, Paradox does not describe, teach or suggest all of the claim associated with unclaimed property information as described for independent Claim 1. Combining Paradox with the Official Notice assertions does not change this fact. The Examiner clearly did not consider all of the words of the claims. Therefore, these claims cannot be obvious under the holdings of *In re Royka* and *In re Wilson*.

Third, Paradox does not teach or suggest, or even mention, with Official Notice, the specific claim limitations related to automatically acquiring and processing unclaimed property information as well as automatically locating owner's of unclaimed property information, or accepting electronic payment from owner's of located unclaimed property information.

CONCLUSION FOR ISSUE 3

Thus, the obviousness rejection is improper under the holdings of *In re Royka* and *In re Wilson*. Therefore, the Examiner has not established a *prima facie* case of anticipation under §103(a). Therefore, the Appellant now requests the Appeal Board instruct the Examiner to immediately withdraw the §103(a) rejections with respect to Claims 8-9, 12-24. Since these claims are not anticipated they should be immediately allowable in their present form.

ARUGUMENT FOR ISSUE 4

- (1) Computer readable mediums have been statutory subject matter under 35 U.S.C. 101 at least since the decision of *In re Lowry*, 32 F.3d 1579 (Fed. Cir. 1994).

Claims 2, 13 and 30 are dependent claims that include computer readable mediums including method steps of their corresponding independent method claims. Examiner Ackers apparently didn't read or understand the MPEP when applying this rejection. The MPEP at §2106 clearly states when functional descriptive material is recorded on some computer-readable medium it becomes structurally and functionally interrelated to the medium and will be statutory since use of technology permits the function of the descriptive material to be realized. *In re Lowry*, 32 F.3d 1579, 1583-84, 32 USPQ2d 1031, 1035 (Fed. Cir. 1994).

In a search done by the Appellant on the USPTO web-site at www.uspto.gov, on June 12, 2005, there were almost 16,000 issued U.S. Patent that included issued claims including "computer readable mediums." Clearly the Patent Office has found such claims statutory a very large number of times and should in this instance as well. Appellant includes the search results herein.

USPTO FULL TEXT AND IMAGE DATABASE

"Searching 1976 to present..."

Results of Search in 1976 to present db for:

ACLM/"computer readable medium": 15960 patents."

Examiner Ackers also ignored the following from the holding of *In re Lowry* clearly stated in the MPEP: (1) if a claim defines a useful machine or article of manufacture by identifying the physical structure of the machine or manufacture (i.e., a computer readable medium) in terms of its hardware or hardware and software combination, it defines a *statutory* product. *In re Lowry*, 32 F.3d at 1583, 32 USPQ2d at 1034-35; (2) if a claim defines a useful machine or manufacture by identifying the physical structure of the machine or manufacture in terms of its hardware or hardware and software combination it defines a *statutory* product. In *re Lowry*, 32 F.3d at 1583, 32 USPQ2d at 1034-35.

Examiner Ackers should also be reminded that the MPEP states "*office personnel have the burden to establish a prima facie case that the claimed invention as a whole is directed to solely an abstract idea or to manipulation of abstract ideas or does not produce a useful result. Only when the claim is devoid of any limitation to a practical application in the technological arts should it be rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101.*" See MPEP §2106.

Clearly Examiner Ackers has not met this burden since he provided no explanation whatsoever as to why the claimed invention that includes method steps

for automatically acquiring and processing unclaimed property information is devoid of any limitation to a practical application in the technical arts.

The Appellant invention certainly has practical application to the technical arts since the Appellant has a successful company for many years that in part uses the claimed invention to automatically acquire and process unclaimed property information for many government and financial organizations throughout the United States.

The Examiner's only comment about the Section 101 rejection was one sentence rejecting dependent claims 2, 13 and 20, which include the corresponding method steps of the independent claims on a computer readable medium, under Section 101 as "failing to provide a concrete, useful and tangible output."

Examiner Ackers also appears not to understand the holding of *State Street Bank & Trust Co. v. Signature Financial Group Inc.*, 149 F. 3d 1368, 1374, 47 USPQ2d 1596, 1601-02 (Fed. Cir. 1998) or *AT&T Corp. v. Excel Communications, Inc.*, 172 F.3d 1352, 1358, 50 USPQ2d 1447, 1452 (Fed. Cir. 1999). The Appellant's invention is a computer-related invention clearly providing a "useful, concrete and tangible result," namely automatically and periodically obtaining and processing unclaimed property information from plural different sources and storing it in a unified database format that allows additional automatic processing (e.g., automatically contacting owner's of unclaimed property, etc.) where these method steps are stored on a computer readable medium. The Appellant's invention is

stored on computer readable medium is clearly statutory under the holding of *Lowrey, State Street Bank, AT&T* and all the other previous cases dealing with computer related inventions as machines programmed for a specific function as well.

CONCLUSION FOR ISSUE 4

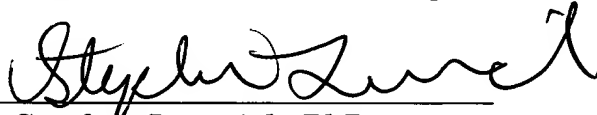
Thus, the Section 101 rejection is clearly improper under the patent rules and the holdings of at least, *In re Lowry, State Street Bank and AT&T*. Therefore, the Appellant now requests the Appeal Board instruct the Examiner to immediately withdraw the §101 rejections with respect to Claims 2, 13 and 30. Since these claims comprise statutory subject matter they should be immediately allowable in their present form.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Appellant submits that the Examiner's rejection of claims 1-26 is erroneous. Accordingly, Appellant respectfully requests that the Appeal Board reverse the Examiner's rejection of claims 1-26 and immediately pass all claims 1-26 to allowance.

Respectively submitted:

Lesavich High-Tech Law Group, P.C.

By: 
Stephen Lesavich, PhD
Registration No. 43,749

CLAIMS APPENDIX
Claims 1-26

1. (Previously Presented) A method for acquiring unclaimed property information, comprising:
 - automatically obtaining periodically a plurality of unclaimed property information from a plurality of unclaimed property repositories, wherein the plurality of unclaimed property information is maintained in a plurality of different formats by the plurality of unclaimed property repositories;
 - automatically transforming the plurality of unclaimed property information maintained in the plurality of different formats into a unified database format, thereby creating transformed unclaimed property information; and
 - automatically creating a plurality of database records in an unclaimed property database with the transformed unclaimed property information using the unified database format.
2. (Original) A computer readable medium having stored therein instructions for causing a processor to execute the method of Claim 1.
3. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1 wherein the step of automatically obtaining periodically a plurality of unclaimed property information from a plurality of unclaimed property repositories includes obtaining unclaimed property information from state government agencies, federal government agencies, state court agencies, federal court agencies, public financial institutions or private financial institutions.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1 wherein the step of automatically transforming the plurality of unclaimed property information maintained in the plurality of formats into a unified database format includes automatically processing unclaimed property information from paper documents, microfiche, CD-ROMs, or computer tapes.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1 wherein the step of automatically transforming the plurality of unclaimed property information maintained in the plurality of different formats into a unified database format includes extracting selected information from the plurality of different formats and storing the selected information in a designated information field in the unified database format.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1 wherein the step of automatically transforming the plurality of unclaimed property information in the plurality of different formats into a unified database format includes deleting duplicate or incomplete entries from the plurality of unclaimed property information.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1 wherein the step of automatically transforming the plurality of unclaimed property information in the plurality of different formats into a unified database format includes combining two or more information fields from the plurality of unclaimed property information into one information field in the unified database format.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1 wherein the step of automatically creating a plurality of database records using the unified database format in an unclaimed property database with transformed unclaimed property information includes automatically creating a plurality of pass-through database records.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the unclaimed property database is a pass-through database.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1 wherein the step of automatically creating a plurality of database records using the unified database format includes automatically electronically linking selected ones of the plurality of database records in the unclaimed property database to original unclaimed property information from the plurality of unclaimed property repositories.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1 wherein the step of automatically creating a plurality of database records using the unified database format includes:

automatically creating a database record; and

automatically linking the database record with other database records that include similar names.

12. (Previously Presented) A method of locating owners of unclaimed property, comprising:

(a) reading a database record from an unclaimed property database, wherein the unclaimed property database includes a plurality of database

records automatically created from a plurality of unclaimed property information from a plurality of unclaimed property repositories, and wherein the unclaimed property information is stored in a unified database format in the unclaimed property database;

(b) determining whether an owner of unclaimed property identified in the database record can be automatically located by searching one or more other databases on public and private computer networks; and if so,

(c) notifying automatically an owner of unclaimed property as to the existence and amount of unclaimed property; and

(d) repeating steps (a) and (b) for unique records in the unclaimed property database.

13. (Original) A computer readable medium having stored therein instructions for causing a processor to execute the method of Claim 12.

14. (Original) The method of Claim 12 wherein step (c) includes notifying an owner of unclaimed property with electronic mail, an automatically generated voice message or paper documents.

15. (Original) The method of Claim 12 wherein step (c) includes notifying an owner of unclaimed property via a web-site, television, radio or via a publication in a newspaper or magazine.

16. (Original) The method of Claim 12 wherein the step (c) includes notifying an owner of unclaimed property with a unique unclaimed property

identifier that can be used by the owner of unclaimed property to electronically request the unclaimed property electronically via a computer network.

17. (Original) The method of Claim 11 wherein the database record from the unclaimed property database is linked to a plurality of other database records if an unclaimed property owner has multiple types or amounts of unclaimed property.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 12 wherein step (a) includes automatically searching other database records with similar information linked to the database record.

19. (Original) A method for automatically requesting disbursement of unclaimed property, comprising:

providing a graphical user interface available on a computer network that allows an identified owner of unclaimed property to request unclaimed property;

electronically collecting appropriate information required by one or more unclaimed property repositories to disburse unclaimed property and a fee via the graphical user interface from an identified owner of unclaimed property;

electronically processing necessary forms for the one or more unclaimed property repositories for the identified owner of unclaimed property using the collected information;

requesting automatically with the electronically processed forms that unclaimed property from the one or more unclaimed property repositories for the identified owner be disbursed to the identified owner of unclaimed property.

20. (Original) A computer readable medium having stored therein instructions for causing a processor to execute the method of Claim 19.

21. (Original) The method of Claim 19 wherein the step of electronically collecting appropriate information for one or more unclaimed property repositories and a fee via a computer network from an identified owner of unclaimed property includes only specific information required by the one or more unclaimed property repositories to recover unclaimed property.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 19 wherein the step of electronically collecting appropriate information for one or more unclaimed property repositories and a fee via a computer network from an identified owner of unclaimed property includes collecting appropriate information for one or more unclaimed property repositories via an input form written in the Hyper Text Markup Language or eXtensible Markup Language or the type of input form and presented to an owner of unclaimed property via the Internet.

23. (Original) The method of Claim 19 wherein the fee is electronically collected automatically for a credit card, debit card, or electronically deducted from a checking or savings account.

24. (Original) The method of Claim 19 wherein the step of electronically collecting appropriate information includes automatically collecting and displaying input forms to collect appropriate information based on an unclaimed property identifier supplied to an owner of unclaimed property when the owner of unclaimed property was notified to existence of unclaimed property.

25. (Previously Presented) An unclaimed property network system, comprising in combination:

an unclaimed property acquisition module for automatically obtaining periodically a plurality of unclaimed property information from a plurality of unclaimed property repositories, wherein the plurality of unclaimed property information is maintained in a plurality of different formats by the plurality of unclaimed property repositories, automatically transforming the plurality of unclaimed property information maintained in the plurality of formats into a unified database format, thereby creating transformed unclaimed property information, and automatically creating a plurality of database records in an unclaimed property database with transformed unclaimed property information using the unified database format;

an unclaimed property identification module for reading a database record from an unclaimed property database, determining whether an owner of unclaimed property identified in the database record can be automatically located by searching one or more other databases on public and private computer networks, and if so, notifying automatically an owner of unclaimed property as to the existence and amount of unclaimed property;

an unclaimed property disbursement module for electronically collecting appropriate information required by one or more unclaimed property repositories to disburse unclaimed property and a fee via a graphical user interface from an identified owner of unclaimed property, electronically processing necessary forms for the one or more unclaimed property repositories for the identified owner of unclaimed property using the collected information, and requesting automatically with the electronically processed forms that unclaimed property from the one or more unclaimed property repositories for the identified owner be disbursed to the identified owner of unclaimed property;

an unclaimed property database module for automatically storing a plurality of unclaimed property information in an unclaimed property database in a unified database format; and

a graphical user interface available on a computer network that allows an identified owner of unclaimed property to request unclaimed property via the unclaimed property disbursement module.

26. (Original) The system of Claim 25 further comprising:

an unclaimed property database including a plurality of database records stored in a unified database format created from a plurality of unclaimed property information from a plurality of unclaimed property repositories.

EVIDENCE APPENDIX

The following documents are attached herewith:

1. First Office Action by Examiner Thompson, mailed September 5, 2003, Exhibit A (11 pages).
2. Borland Paradox for Windows cited by Examiner Thompson in the First Office Action mailed September 5, 2003, Exhibit B, (46 pages).
3. Interview Summary by Examiner Thompson mailed August 25, 2004, based on telephone interview of August 23, 2004, Exhibit C, (4 pages).
4. First Office Action (after RCE) by Examiner Geoffrey R. Akers, mailed October 22, 2004, Exhibit D, (4 pages).

PATENT APPEAL BRIEF
Application No. 09/698,905
Examiner: Akers, Geoffrey
Art Unit: 3625
Applicant: Patrick D. McDonald

RELATED PROCEEDING APPENDIX

None.



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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/698,905	10/27/2000	Patrick D. McDonald	00,500	8219

32097 7590 09/05/2003
WLESAVICH HIGH-TECH LAW GROUP, P.C.
SUITE 325
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EXAMINER

THOMPSON JR, FOREST

ART UNIT

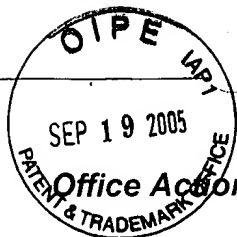
PAPER NUMBER

3625

DATE MAILED: 09/05/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.





Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/698,905

Applicant(s)

MCDONALD, PATRICK D.

Examiner

Forest Thompson Jr.

Art Unit

3625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 October 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 October 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-26 have been examined.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-7, 10-11 and 25-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by "User's Guide, Borland Paradox for Windows;" Borland International, Inc.; v5.0; 1994 (hereafter referred to as Paradox).

Claims 1-7, 10-11, 25-26: Paradox discloses:

- obtaining information from other organizations (i.e., a plurality of repositories) (pg. 268-275), through the functionality of identifying information output by filename from another source and its format;
- transforming the plurality of information maintained in a plurality of formats into a unified database format, thereby creating transformed information (pg. 268-275);
- automatically processing forms (pg. 152);
- creating a plurality of database records in a database with transformed information using the unified database format (pg. 268-275);

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- extracting selected information from the plurality of formats (pg. 268-275),
through the functionality of editing and selecting the information in a file to be imported;
- storing the selected information in a database (pg. 268-275);
- deleting duplicate or incomplete entries (pg. 256-258);
- creating a database record (pg. 151-153);
- linking the database record with other database records (pg. 308-312);
- reading a database record (pg. 107-110);
- processing information from paper documents, microfiche, CD-ROMs, or
computer tapes (pg. 268-275);
- combining two or more information fields into one information field (pg. 218-219;
pg. 409-411);
- electronically linking selected ones of the plurality of database records in the
database to original information from the plurality of repositories (pg. 268-275; pg. 308-
312), that is disclosed through the functionality of providing a link/reference to the
original data file created from the data obtained from a data source;

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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5. Claims 8-9 and 12-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over "User's Guide, Borland Paradox for Windows," Borland International, Inc.; v5.0; 1994 (hereafter referred to as Paradox) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Official Notice.

Claims 8-9, 12-18: Paradox does not specifically disclose create a plurality of pass-through database records; reading the database information to determine contact information relative to the database information; using the contact information to provide notifications; electronically collecting appropriate information required by one or more service providers (e.g., unclaimed property repositories) to disburse unclaimed property; nor electronically collecting a fee. However, Official Notice is taken that it was old and well known in the art at the time the invention was made that links (linking addresses) could be used as data entries in a database to automatically link to and draw data from the referenced database for the purpose of efficiency/economy of database operations and database space utilization. The link data would be a data entry equivalent to any other, but utilizing a particular format for functional purposes. Additionally, Official Notice is taken that it was old and well known in the art at the time the invention was made that contact information may be obtained and stored by service providers in a database with other data for the purpose of communicating status and other pertinent information to the contacts, and charging a fee for the service of communicating such data. An example is buyer information for buyers who buy products through on-line or on-site sales and pay electronically (e.g., by providing credit card information). This

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information is often used for payment processing, warranty validation, delivery notification, and/or communication processing for other purposes. Also, service providers typically charge fees for the services that they perform. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the disclosure of Paradox to specifically create a plurality of pass-through database records, read the database information to determine contact information relative to the database information, use the contact information to provide notifications, electronically collecting appropriate information required by one or more service providers (e.g., unclaimed property repositories) to disburse unclaimed property, and electronically collecting a fee, as disclosed by old and well known art, for the motivation of acquiring unclaimed property information and automatically requesting disbursement of unclaimed property.

Claim 19-20: Paradox discloses:

- providing a graphical user interface (pg. 508-525), which is disclosed through the functionality of creating and using graphs;
- electronically collecting appropriate information;
- automatically processing forms using the collected information;

Additionally, Official Notice is taken that delivery of the property or product when forms/applications/purchase agreements are (electronically or manually) completed was old and well known in the art at the time the invention was made and encompasses the feature of automatically requesting disbursement to the identified owner at that time.

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On-line service providers fulfill their agreements when their requirements are met (e.g., payment is provided). And, the forms stored in a database can be used to automatically draw pertinent data from the database when the forms are used, based on query routines stored and used by the database user. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the disclosure of Paradox to specifically disclose disbursing or delivering the property or product (e.g., unclaimed property) when forms/applications/purchase agreements are completed, as disclosed by old and well known art, for the motivation of automatically requesting disbursement of unclaimed property.

Claim 21: Paradox discloses data includes any data the user wants to insert from internal or external data sources. This data may include only specific information required by the one or more unclaimed property repositories to recover unclaimed property.

Claim 22: Paradox discloses collecting data via a form written in Hyper Text Markup Language or extensible Markup Language or the type of input form and presented to an owner of unclaimed property via the Internet (pg. 152).

Claim 23: Paradox does not specifically disclose the fee is electronically collected automatically for a credit card, debit card, or electronically deducted from a checking or savings account. However, Official Notice is taken that it was old and well known in the

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art at the time the invention was made that fees could be electronically collected automatically for a credit card, debit card, or electronically deducted from a checking or savings account by on-line service providers. This facilitates rapid transaction verification and completion for the on-line service provider. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the disclosure of Paradox specifically electronically collect the fee automatically for a credit card, debit card, or electronically deducted from a checking or savings account, as disclosed by old and well known art, for the motivation of automatically requesting disbursement of unclaimed property.

Claim 24: Paradox discloses automatically collecting and displaying input forms to collect appropriate information based on an identifier (pg. 31-32), as illustrated by selecting records based on customer number.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Prior art includes:


- Greene, Joe; "Oracle DBA Survival Guide;" Sams Publishing; 1995; discloses selected pages from a user's manual for generating, using and updating an Oracle database.

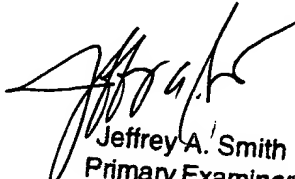
Art Unit: 3625

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Forest Thompson Jr. whose telephone number is (703) 306-5449. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30-3:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wynn Coggins can be reached on (703) 308-1344. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9326 for regular communications and (703) 872-9327 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.


F. Thompson
July 15, 2003


Jeffrey A. Smith
Primary Examiner



Notice of References Cited

Application/Control No.

09/698,905

Applicant(s)/Patent Under
Reexamination
MCDONALD, PATRICK D.

Examiner

Forest Thompson Jr.

Art Unit

3625

Page 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	Classification
	A	US-6,266,442	07-2001	Laumeyer et al.	382/190
	B	US-6,370,547	04-2002	Eftink, Marion J.	707/201
	C	US-			
	D	US-			
	E	US-			
	F	US-			
	G	US-			
	H	US-			
	I	US-			
	J	US-			
	K	US-			
	L	US-			
	M	US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Country	Name	Classification
	N					
	O					
	P					
	Q					
	R					
	S					
	T					

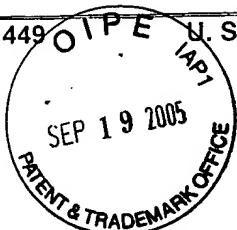
NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
	U	"User's Guide: Borland Paradox for Windows, Version 5.0;" Borland International, Inc.; 1994
	V	Greene, Joe; "Oracle DBA Survival Guide;" Sams Publishing; 1995
	W	
	X	

*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)
Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.

SEP 04 2001

FORM PTO-1449
(Rev. 2-32)



U. S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark Office

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**
(Use several Sheets is Necessary)

Atty. Docket No.

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Serial No.

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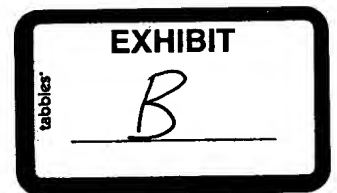
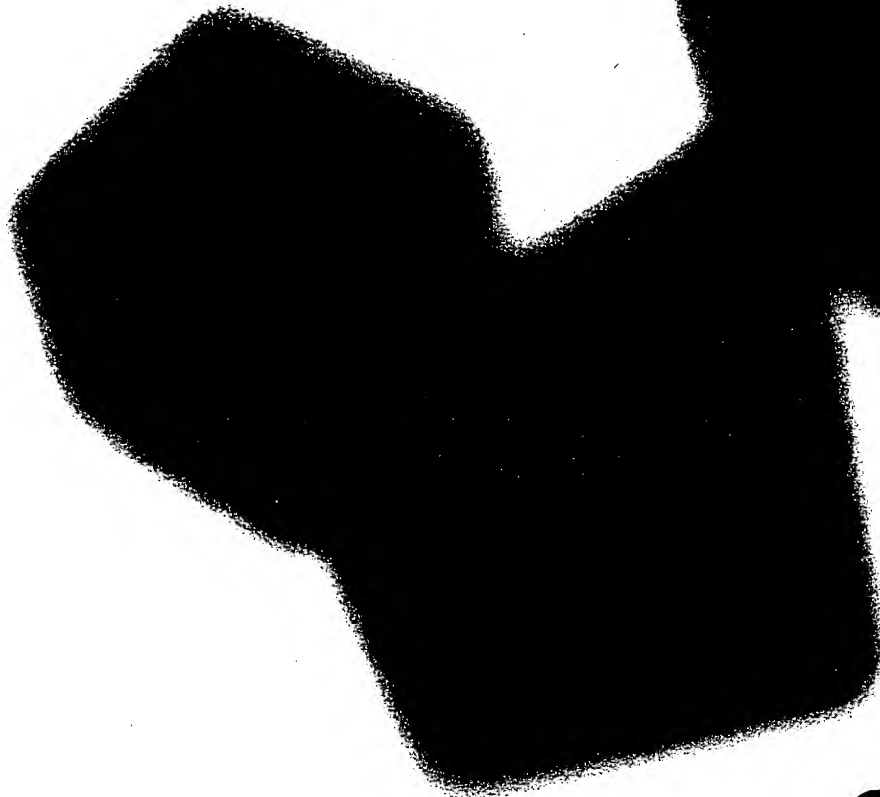
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User's Guide



Borland[®] Paradox[®]

for Windows




User's Guide



Version 5.0

Borland®
Paradox® for Windows

Borland International, Inc., 100 Borland Way
P.O. Box 660001, Scotts Valley, CA 95067-0001



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The *Contacts* table

Finally, Bill needed a way to keep track of who to reach at each customer site. So, he created a *Contacts* table and filled it with the name and telephone number of the person he talked to the most often at each site. *Contacts* looked like this:

Field name	Type	Size	Linking	Explanation
Last Name	A	10		Contact's last name
First Name	A	20		Contact's first name
Company	A	30		Contact's company name
Phone	A	15		Contact's direct phone

With *Contacts*, Bill was able to keep track of information that didn't need to fit into his data model. He kept its information separate and was able to protect the privacy of his contacts and their direct phone numbers.

Stage four: Creating multi-table documents

MAST was really taking off, and Paradox supported its growing information management needs. Bill needed some powerful data entry forms and reports to maximize his data model.

A data entry form

To enter new orders, Bill created a form linking *Customer*, *Orders*, and *Lineitem*. Paradox used the keys and secondary indexes to figure out how to link the tables. The form Bill created is shown in Figure 2.5.

Figure 2.5 A multi-table data entry form

Form: INVOICE.FSL

Customer No.: 1583
Name: Blue Sports

Order No.: 1012
Sale Date: 5/19/88
Ship Date: 5/29/88
Ship VIA: UPS
Total Invoice: \$5,201.00

Stock No.	Selling Price	Qty
2350	\$29.00	5
2367	\$52.00	3
12306	\$90.00	14

Order No.: 1057
Sale Date: 2/18/89
Ship Date: 2/24/89
Ship VIA: UPS
Total Invoice: \$1,975.00

This information is stored in Customer.

This is in Lineitem.


This information is stored in Orders.

Bill let Paradox calculate the value of Total Invoice in *Orders* from the Selling Price and Qty fields of *Lineitem*. He inspected the Total Invoice field, defined it as a calculated field, and set up the calculation $\text{Lineitem.Selling Price} * \text{Lineitem.Qty}$. From then on, Paradox totaled the invoice for him.

A multi-table report

Besides being able to enter orders more efficiently, Bill found he could communicate more effectively with his customers. For example, he created a multi-table report to show his customers their buying practices. The report linked *Customer* to *Orders* and presented information from both tables in a standard letter format, as shown in Figure 2.6.

Figure 2.6 A multi-table report



**Marine
Adventures and
Sunken
Treasure**

Saturday, June 04, 1994

Kauai Dive Shoppe
4-976 Sugarloaf Hwy
Kapaa Kauai, HI, 94766

To our friends at Kauai Dive Shoppe,

I am pleased to be able to offer this summary of the orders you have placed with MAST and hope it helps you to gain an insight to your company's buying practices.

I'd like to help you take advantage of quantity discounts and automatic delivery scheduling. We have a number of programs available and I'm sure one of them would fit your needs perfectly. Please feel free to call me at our toll-free number. I'll be happy to make whatever arrangements you require.

Your orders are shown in the following table:

Order No	Sale Date	Ship Date	Ship VIA	Total Invoice	Terms	Payment Method
1,001	4/3/88	4/5/88	UPS	\$7,320.00	FOB	Credit
1,023	7/1/88	7/5/88	UPS	\$1,414.00	Net 30	Check
1,059	2/24/89	3/2/89	US Mail	\$33,540.00	FOB	Cash
1,076	4/25/89	4/27/89	UPS	\$8,223.80	FOB	Visa
1,123	10/1/89	10/8/89	UPS	\$13,945.00	Net 30	Check
1,169	7/5/90	7/13/90	UPS	\$9,471.95	FOB	Credit
1,176	7/25/90	7/27/90	UPS	\$4,178.85	FOB	Visa
1,269	4/5/91	4/5/91	UPS	\$1,400.00	FOB	Credit
1,369	12/5/91	12/12/91	UPS	\$5,427.35	FOB	Credit
1,469	4/5/92	4/6/92	UPS	\$13,682.85	FOB	Credit
1,669	5/5/92	5/7/92	UPS	\$325.00	FOB	Credit

I hope this information is as valuable to you as your business is to MAST.

Sincerely,
Bill Budd
Bill Budd
President, MAST

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Chapter

5

Viewing tables

This chapter discusses viewing data. It shows you how to

- Open and move around in a Table window.
- Inspect tables and change their properties.
- Change data formats.
- Sort records.
- Specify limits to your view of data using filters, ranges, and live query views.

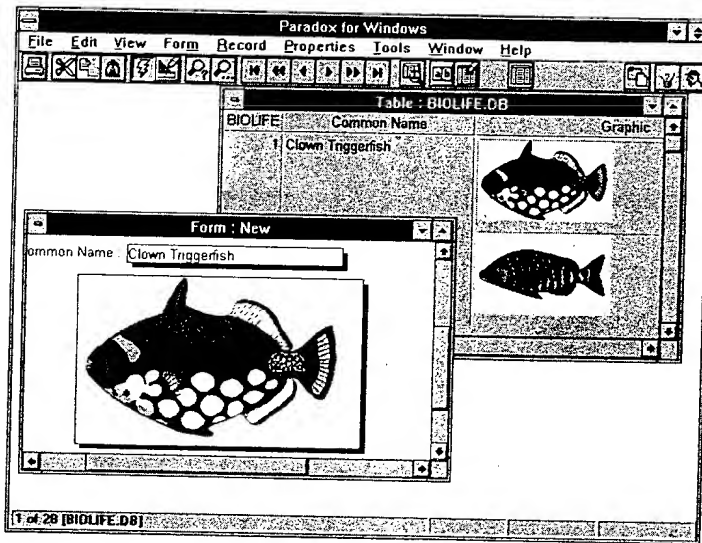
Windows on your data

Paradox gives you several ways to view your data:

- Use the Table window to view data in columns and rows. You can use either the default table format or change table properties to get exactly the view you want.
- Use the Form window to display the records of a table. Forms give you tremendous flexibility. You can see all or some of the fields from a table, or link tables to choose fields from a combination of tables.
- Use the Report window to preview a report onscreen, before you print it. You can scroll through an onscreen document the way you would browse through a stack of papers.

Because Paradox displays each view in its own window, you can have several views of the same data open at the same time. The combinations are limitless—giving you the ability to see exactly the data you want. Figure 5.1 shows the sample *Biolife* table and a form for the *Biolife* table, open at the same time on the Desktop. The Form window is active, so the menu and Toolbar you see in the figure apply to the form. When the Table window for the table is active, the menu and Toolbar change.

Figure 5.1 Different views of your data



Viewing a table

This section explains how to work in a Table window and how to change the view by changing table properties.

If you want information on creating a new table, see Chapter 4.

If you want information on using tables for entering and editing data, see Chapter 6.

Depending on different situations, you may not always want to view your data the same way. Paradox provides virtually unlimited ways for you to view the data in your tables.

Coach For hands-on experience in viewing tables, use the Coach titled "Viewing A Table." Choose Help | Coaches or click the Coaches Toolbar button to open the Coaches menu.

Opening a table

To open a table, you can use the Project Viewer, the menu, or the Toolbar.

- In the Project Viewer, choose Tables, then double-click the table you want to open. If you prefer, you can right-click the table and choose View from its menu. The table opens.

Coach For hands-on experience in opening files with the Project Viewer, use the Coach titled "Getting Around in Paradox." Choose Help | Coaches or click the Coaches Toolbar button to open the Coaches menu.

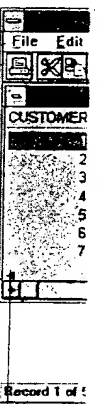
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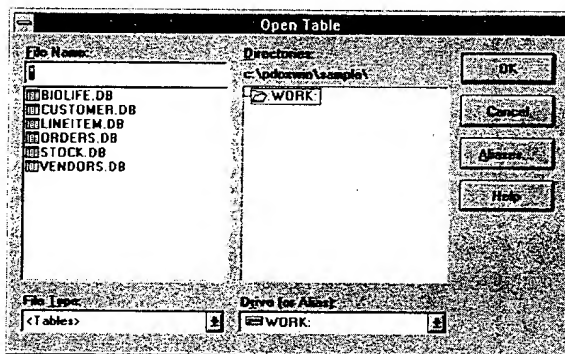
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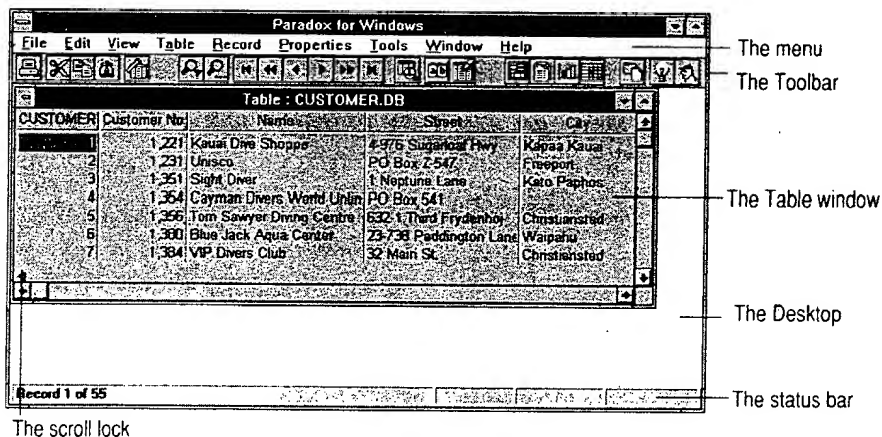
- From the Desktop, either click the Open Table Toolbar button or choose File | Open | Table. You'll see the Open Table dialog box, shown in Figure 5.2.

Figure 5.2 The Open Table dialog box



Choose the table you want. Paradox opens the table in a Table window. Figure 5.3 shows the *Customer* table in its Table window.

Figure 5.3 A Table window



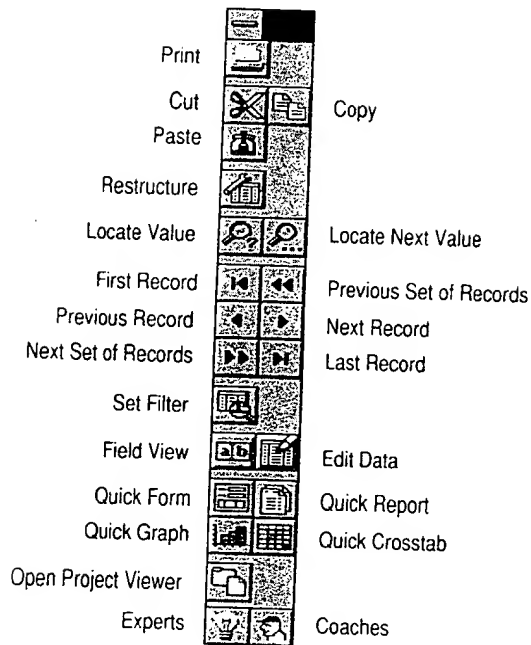
When you open a table, the menu and Toolbar change to show operations you can perform on the table.

Note Commands that involve data entry operations are dimmed until you enter Edit mode. See Chapter 6 for information about working in the Table window in Edit mode.

Using the Table window Toolbar

The following figure shows the Table window Toolbar. Use the Toolbar buttons as quick shortcuts for navigating through the table or performing menu commands. Figure 5.4 shows what each button does.

Figure 5.4 The Table window's Toolbar



Note The Toolbar shown in Figure 5.4 uses the floating, 2-column style, available from the Desktop Properties dialog box.

Moving around a table

Use the Record menu, the scroll bars, the keyboard, or the Toolbar navigation buttons to move through the records of the table.

When using the Record menu or the Toolbar navigation buttons,

- Choose First to move to the first record of the table.
- Choose Last to move to the last record of the table.
- Choose Next to move to the next record of the table.
- Choose Previous to move to the previous record of the table.
- Choose Next Set to move to the next set of records displayed in the Table window. For example, if records one through six are displayed, choosing Next Set displays records six through eleven (the sets overlap by one record).
- Choose Previous Set to move to the previous set of records displayed in the Table window.

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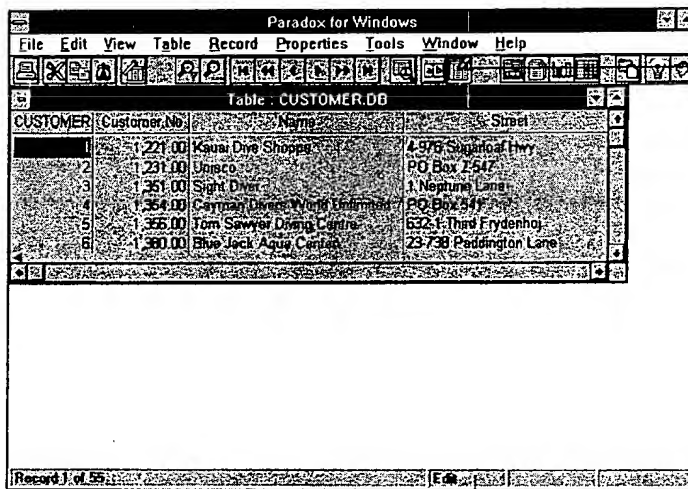
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Figure 6.1 A table in Edit mode



When you enter Edit mode, the Edit Data Toolbar button appears pressed in.

Status message shows you're in Edit mode.

Once you're in Edit mode, you can move the insertion point to any of the table's fields and begin typing. (This replaces the existing contents of the field.) In most field types, you simply select the field you want and type a value in it.

If you need to position the insertion point at some particular point within the field (for example, to change a spelling or typing error), you should enter Field View. (Field View is discussed later in this chapter; see "Using Field View.")

Note Entering data in memo, formatted memo, graphic, and OLE fields can be different. These field types are discussed in "Editing special data types" later in this chapter.

Exiting Edit mode

Exit Edit mode using any of these methods:

- Choose View | End Edit.
- Click the Edit Data Toolbar button.
- Press *F9*.

Inserting and deleting records

You can insert new blank records or delete existing records from either a table or a form.

For hands-on experience inserting and deleting records, use the Coach titled "Inserting And Deleting Records." Choose Help | Coaches or click the Coaches Toolbar button to open the Coaches menu.

Choose Record | Insert (or press *Ins*) to insert a blank record above the selected record. Type the values you want in the new record's fields, and either move off the record or choose Record | Post/Keep Locked to save the new record in the table. Saving a record is often called *posting* or *committing* a record.

When you insert a record in a keyed table, then enter a value and post it, Paradox automatically moves it to its proper position in the table. The record's proper position might not be onscreen, so the record may seem to disappear as it is posted. However, if you look at the record count on the status bar, you'll see that the record has been added. Your view of the table might not change when Paradox posts the record, and the insertion point remains where it was when you pressed *Ins*.

Records inserted in non-keyed tables stay where they are inserted, regardless of the value you enter.

Note If you insert a record into a filtered view of a table's data or a direct query view, and the record does not meet the criteria established by the filter or query, you won't see the record when it is posted.



When working in a single-record form, inserting a record seems like inserting a blank screen. When you press *Ins* or choose Record | Insert, the record values appear blank. This is because Paradox has both inserted and moved to the new blank record. Paradox always inserts blank records *above* the selected record.

Choose Record | Delete (or press *Ctrl+Del*) to delete the selected record from the table or form.

Caution When using a Paradox table, you cannot retrieve a deleted record so be sure you want to delete the *entire record* before you choose Delete.



When using a dBASE table, deleting a record does not permanently remove it. You can choose to view deleted records with the Show Deleted command. For more information, search online Paradox Help for the subject "dBASE tables" and the topic "Deleting Records."

Note When working in a multi-user environment, other users do not see changes you've made until you've posted them. Likewise, you don't see changes other users have made until they have posted them.

The following steps show how to delete and insert a record.

- 1 Open a table and click the Edit Data Toolbar button to enter Edit mode.

Paradox for Windows

File Edit View Table Record Properties Tools Window Help

Table: LINEITEM.DB

LINEITEM	Order No.	Stock No.	Selling Price	Qty	Total
1	1001	1313	\$250.00	4.00	\$1,000.00
2	1001	3340	\$395.00	16.00	\$6,320.00
3	1002	1314	\$365.00	7.00	\$2,555.00
4	1002	1316	\$341.00	9.00	\$3,069.00
5	1002	1320	\$171.00	5.00	\$855.00
6	1002	2341	\$105.00	35.00	\$3,675.00

Record Not 100%

- 2 When you open a table, the first record is selected.

Table: LINEITEM.DB

LINEITEM	Order No.	Stock No.	Selling Price	Qty	Total
1	1001	1313	\$250.00	4.00	\$1,000.00
2	1001	3340	\$395.00	16.00	\$6,320.00
3	1002	1314	\$365.00	7.00	\$2,555.00
4	1002	1316	\$341.00	9.00	\$3,069.00
5	1002	1320	\$171.00	5.00	\$855.00
6	1002	2341	\$105.00	35.00	\$3,675.00

- 3 Press **Ctrl+Del** to delete the selected record. Paradox deletes the record from the table.

Table: LINEITEM.DB

LINEITEM	Order No.	Stock No.	Selling Price	Qty	Total
1	1001	3340	\$395.00	16.00	\$6,320.00
2	1002	1314	\$365.00	7.00	\$2,555.00
3	1002	1316	\$341.00	9.00	\$3,069.00
4	1002	1320	\$171.00	5.00	\$855.00
5	1002	2341	\$105.00	35.00	\$3,675.00
6	1003	1314	\$365.00	7.00	\$2,555.00

- 4 Press **Ins** to insert a blank record into the table.

Table: LINEITEM.DB

LINEITEM	Order No.	Stock No.	Selling Price	Qty	Total
1					
2	1001	3340	\$395.00	16.00	\$6,320.00
3	1002	1314	\$365.00	7.00	\$2,555.00
4	1002	1316	\$341.00	9.00	\$3,069.00
5	1002	1320	\$171.00	5.00	\$855.00
6	1002	2341	\$105.00	35.00	\$3,675.00

- 5 Enter data into the fields of the new record.
- 6 Click the Edit Data Toolbar button again to exit Edit mode.

Paradox saves the changes you make to a record when you either exit Edit mode or move to a different record.

Calculating with numeric values from different tables

You can link tables and perform calculations that call on values from different tables in a single query. For example, suppose you want to calculate a total dollar amount of all currently on-order items based on List Price (in *Stock*) rather than on Selling Price (in *Lineitem*).

To find this information, you need to multiply the list price of all items by the quantity of that item ordered, as shown in the following steps.

- 1 Open a Query window and select the *Stock* and *Lineitem* tables.
- 2 Check the Stock No, Part No, Description, and List Price fields of the *Stock* query image.
- 3 Check the Order No and Qty fields of the *Lineitem* query image.
- 4 Type the example element Qty in the Qty field of the *Lineitem* query image.
- 5 Type the example element Price in the List Price field of the *Stock* query image. Then type a comma, and type the expression `CALC qty * price` (entering qty and price as example elements).
- 6 Use the Join Tables Toolbar button to place example elements in the Stock No fields of both query images.
- 7 Run the query.

Query: <Untitled>

Table: PRIVANSWER.DB

Stock No	Part No	Description	List Price	Order No	Qty	Price
12-210-000	12-210-000	12-210-000	\$20.00	12-210-000	1	\$20.00
21-195-000	21-195-000	21-195-000	\$22.00	21-195-000	1	\$22.00
11-202-000	11-202-000	11-202-000	\$171.00	11-202-000	1	\$171.00
6832-14A	6832-14A	6832-14A	\$325.00	6832-14A	1	\$325.00
12-612-000	12-612-000	12-612-000	\$341.00	12-612-000	1	\$341.00
28-073-000	28-073-000	28-073-000	\$105.00	28-073-000	1	\$105.00
6832-14A	6832-14A	6832-14A	\$365.00	6832-14A	1	\$365.00

Using CALC to combine alpha values

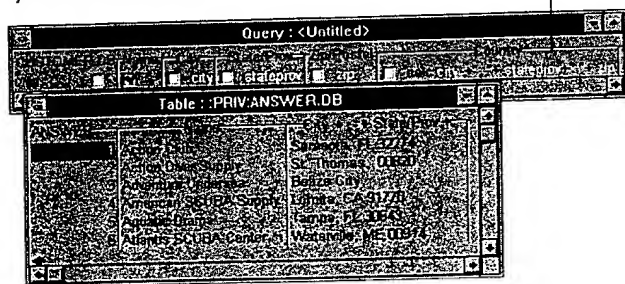
You can combine (concatenate) alpha values with constants using CALC and the + operator.

For example, suppose you want to combine the City, State, and Zip fields of the *Customer* table into one field. You could create a calculation that "adds" these three field values together, as shown in the following steps.

- 1 Open a Query window and select the *Customer* table.
- 2 Check the Name field.
- 3 Type the following example elements:

- city in the City field
 - stateprov in the State/Prov field
 - zip in the Zip/Postal Code field.
- 4 In the Country field, type CALC city +", "+ stateprov + " "+ zip. (Type city, stateprov, and zip as example elements. The comma and space after city, and the space between stateprov and zip must be enclosed in quotes for Paradox to recognize them as characters.)
 - 5 Run the query.

You set up the example elements, + operators, and commas (within quotes) in the order you want them to appear in the *Answer* table.



Creating a new *Answer* field with a constant value

You can create a new *Answer* table field that contains a constant value—numeric, date, or alpha—rather than the result of a calculation. When creating a numeric or date constant, type CALC, a space, and the constant numeric or date value in any field of the query image. When creating an alpha constant, type CALC, a space, quotation marks, the alpha constant—with respect for case—and end with quotation marks.

Paradox names the new field in *Answer* the same name as the constant value. (You can rename the new field in *Answer* by using the AS operator.) If the new field is alpha, it has as many character spaces as necessary to hold the constant value.

You can create a new blank field—meaning a blank value is the constant—by typing CALC BLANK. In this case, you *must* type the CALC expression in the field type that you want the resulting new *Answer* field to be—number, short, money, date, or alpha.

Suppose you need to call all of your dive shop customer contacts to conduct a survey of customer satisfaction. You want a way to keep track of the contacts you have yet to call so that you don't call anyone twice by mistake.

You can combine the Last Name and First Name fields in a new field named People to Call, and you can create a new field with the alpha constant "Not called yet."

- 1 Open a Query window and select the *Contacts* table.
- 2 Check the Company and Phone fields.
- 3 Enter the following example elements
 - last in the Last Name field

Changing data with queries

Certain types of queries let you change the data in your existing table rather than create an *Answer* table. You can use

- The INSERT reserved word to insert records from one table into another
- The DELETE reserved word to delete records that match conditions you specify
- The CHANGETO reserved word to change existing values to a new value you specify

Using INSERT

Use an INSERT query to insert records from one or more sources into a single *target* table.



You can insert records from one table type to another—from dBASE to Paradox or Paradox to dBASE.

To perform an INSERT query, follow these steps:

- 1 Add the source and target tables to the Query window. (If the target table is new, you must create it before you create the query.)
- 2 Link the tables using example elements.
- 3 For each source table, specify any selection conditions.
- 4 In the target table, place the word `INSERT` in the leftmost column (under the table name). You can
 - Click and hold the table name to choose Insert from the menu that appears.
 - Select the table name and press *Spacebar* to choose Insert from the menu that appears.
 - Select the table name and type `i`.

5 Run the query.

Checkmarks are not allowed on the line of the query image that contains the INSERT operator.

Paradox inserts the records from the source into the target table for every field you linked with example elements. The source table isn't affected by the INSERT query.

Note Fields you leave blank (with no example element) in the target table receive no values from the source table(s). You can't put example elements in Paradox BLOB or bytes fields or in dBASE memo fields, so you can't use INSERT with these types of fields.

The *Inserted* table

An INSERT query produces a temporary table called *Inserted*. As with *Answer*, Paradox saves *Inserted* to your private directory, overwrites it each time you run an INSERT query, and deletes it when you exit the program. You can use the Rename utility to save *Inserted* under a different name.

Note If you choose the Fast Queries option from the Query Options dialog box, Paradox will not create the *Inserted* table. The Query Options dialog box is discussed in Chapter 7.

You can produce an *Answer* table in addition to the *Inserted* table, if you check fields on a separate line of the target query image. If you also supply selection conditions on that line, the records in the *Answer* table will reflect those conditions. Such an *Answer* table doesn't contain any information that has to do with the INSERT operation. See "Operation order in a query involving multiple operations" later in this chapter for more information.

You can use the *Inserted* table, along with Delete, to undo an insertion. See the section, "Using DELETE."

The *Errorins* table

If you try to insert records that violate the referential integrity of the target table or that violate validity checks established for that table (except picture validity checks), Paradox places the new records into a temporary table called *Errorins*. Those records that don't violate referential integrity or validity checks are placed in *Inserted*.

Example of an INSERT query

Suppose you find out you can get a cheaper phone rate for international calls if you switch to a different long distance service. Before you switch long distance companies, however, you want to see just how many customers are located outside the U.S.

This example uses the sample table to demonstrate an INSERT query that places all international customers in a new *Phoncall* table. You must define the structure of the *Phoncall* table before you can use INSERT to add data to it. Create the *Phoncall* table by borrowing its structure from the sample *Customer* table, deleting all fields except Name and Phone, renaming Name as ClientName, and renaming Phone as PhoneNumber. Creating a table and borrowing an existing table's structure are discussed in Chapter 7.

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In a Query window that has the CUSTOMER.DB and PHONCALL.DB query images,

- 1 In the Name field of CUSTOMER.DB, type *name* for the example element.
- 2 In the Country field of CUSTOMER.DB, type *not U.S.A.* This inserts into *Phoncall* only those dive shops not in the U.S.
- 3 In the Phone field of CUSTOMER.DB, type *phone* for the example element.
- 4 In PHONCALL.DB, click under the table name and choose Insert from the menu of query operations.
- 5 In the Client Name field of PHONCALL.DB, type *name* for the example element.
- 6 In the Phone Number field of PHONCALL.DB, type *phone* for the example element.
- 7 Run the query. Paradox opens the *Inserted* table on the Desktop.
- 8 Choose File | Open | Table and, from the Open Table dialog box, select PHONCALL.DB. Because *Phoncall* was empty before this operation, its records should exactly match the records in the *Inserted* table.

The result of an INSERT query, besides a changed target table, is an *Inserted* table. It contains all records that were inserted from the source to the target table.

Query: <Untitled>					
CUSTOMER.DB			PHONCALL.DB		
Name	Street	State	City	Country	Phone
1. Name					
2. Sign Diver					
3. Cayman Diver					
4. Tom Sawyer Diver					

Table: PRIV-INSERTED.DB		
ClientName	PhoneNumber	Address
1. Name		
2. Sign Diver		
3. Cayman Diver		
4. Tom Sawyer Diver		

Table: PHONCALL.DB		
ClientName	PhoneNumber	Address
1. Name	803-555-3315	
2. Sign Diver	351-649-9708	
3. Cayman Diver	803-555-8575	
4. Tom Sawyer Diver	803-555-7201	

Don't check fields on the same line as the Insert operator in the target table of an INSERT query, or you'll get an error. If you check fields on a separate line of the target table or fields in the source table, you'll get an *Answer* table.

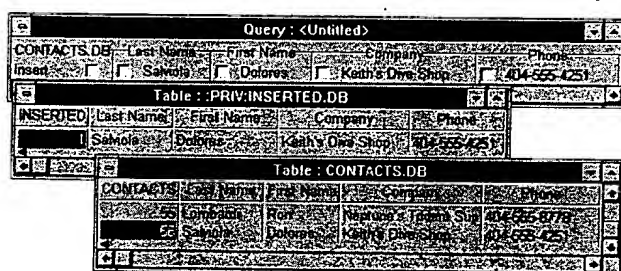
When you open the target table, you'll see that the appropriate records have been inserted.

Inserting values using an INSERT query

Suppose you want to insert a record of literal values into the sample *Contacts* table using an INSERT query. In a Query window that has the CONTACTS.DB query image,

- 1 Choose Insert from the menu of query operations in the leftmost column of CONTACTS.DB.
- 2 In the Last Name field, type *Salviola*.
- 3 In the First Name field, type *Dolores*.

- 4 In the Company field, type Keith's Dive Shop.
- 5 In the Phone field, type 404-555-4251.
- 6 Run the query. Paradox opens the *Inserted* table.
- 7 Choose File | Open | Table and, from the Open Table dialog box, select the *Contacts* table. Move to the end of *Contacts* to see the record you inserted.



Using DELETE

DELETE queries remove records from a table. Use a DELETE query when the records you want to delete have something in common that you can specify in one or more selection conditions.

Note A DELETE query removes only records, not specific field values within records. (See "Using CHANGETO" later in this chapter for information on changing or removing specific field values.)

To perform a DELETE query, follow these steps:

- 1 Open a Query window with a query image of the table from which you want to delete records.
- 2 Place the word Delete in the leftmost column (under the table name) of the table whose records you want to delete by doing any of the following in that column:
 - Click and hold the table name to choose Delete from the menu that appears.
 - Select the table name and press *Spacebar* to choose Delete from the menu that appears.
 - Select the table name and type *d*.

Checkmarks are not allowed on the line of the query image that contains the DELETE reserved word.

- 3 Enter any selection condition to select the records to be deleted. You can enter selection conditions in several fields of the same query image (or in fields of query images linked by example elements).

Caution If you don't enter any selection conditions, Paradox deletes all the records from the table.

- 4 Run the query. Paradox deletes from the table all records that meet the selection conditions.

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The Deleted table

A DELETE query produces a temporary table called *Deleted*, which contains only the deleted records. Paradox saves *Deleted* to your private directory, overwrites it each time you run a DELETE query, and deletes it when you exit the program. You can use the Rename utility to save *Deleted* under a different name.

Note If you choose the Fast Queries option from the Query Options dialog box, Paradox will not create the *Deleted* table. The Query Options dialog box is discussed in Chapter 7.

You can produce an *Answer* table in addition to the *Deleted* table, if you check fields on a separate line of the query image. If you also supply selection conditions on that line, the records in the *Answer* table will reflect those conditions. Such an *Answer* table doesn't contain any information that has to do with the DELETE operation. See "Operation order in a query involving multiple operations" later in this chapter for more information.



You can use the *Deleted* table, along with INSERT, to undo a deletion. Use *Deleted* as the source table and insert *Deleted*'s records back into the table from which they were deleted. If you're reinserting records you deleted from an unkeyed table, the records are inserted at the end of the table.

You can also reinsert the deleted records in *Deleted* into the original table using the Add utility. Apart from these two methods, you have no other way of recovering records deleted from a Paradox table.

The Errordel table

If you try to delete records that violate the referential integrity of the target table or that violate validity checks established for that table (except picture validity checks), Paradox places the new records into a temporary table called *Errordel*. Those records that don't violate referential integrity or validity checks are placed in *Deleted*.

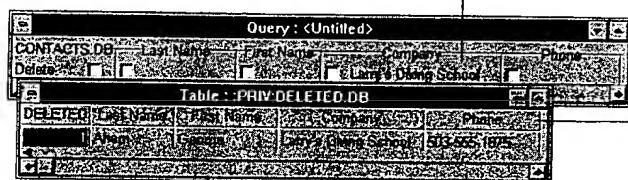
Example of a DELETE query

This example uses the sample *Contacts* table. Suppose Larry's Diving School has gone out of business and you want to remove this dive shop from the *Contacts* table. In a Query window with the *Contacts* table query image,

- 1 In the leftmost column, choose Delete from the menu of query operations.
- 2 In the Company field, type Larry's Diving School.
- 3 Run the query.

Paradox opens the *Deleted* table. To undo this query, follow the steps in the next example.

All records that meet the condition will be deleted from the *Contacts* table.



The result of the query, besides a changed *Contacts* table, is the *Deleted* table that contains all records that were removed from the source table.

Undoing a DELETE query

You can undo a DELETE query with an INSERT query. For example, suppose you change your mind and decide after you've deleted the contact for Larry's Diving School (see the previous example) that you want to keep George Ahern as a contact for potential dive shop customers.

The easiest way to undo the deletion in this case would be to use the Add utility, adding the deleted record in *Deleted* back into *Contacts*. This example shows you another way to undo. The method you use will depend on the complexity of the deletion you're trying to undo. (With any method, it's a good idea to make copies of the tables at each stage—just in case you make a mistake in the recovery process.)

Using Query window from the previous example,

- 1 Clear the existing selection conditions in the CONTACTS.DB query image by pressing *Ctrl+Del* in any field of the image.
- 2 Add the DELETED.DB query image to the Query window.
- 3 Use the Join Tables Toolbar button to place corresponding example elements in each pair of matching fields in CONTACTS.DB and DELETED.DB.
- 4 In the leftmost column of CONTACTS.DB, choose Insert from the menu of query operations.
- 5 Run the query.

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- Delimited text
- Fixed length text
- Quattro Pro for Windows, Quattro Pro (DOS), and Quattro
- Lotus 2.x and 1.A
- Excel 3.0/4.0

Use the File Type drop-down list to choose the file format you want to import the data from. All files of that format in the working directory appear in the File Name list.



If the file you want to import is not located in the working directory, you can

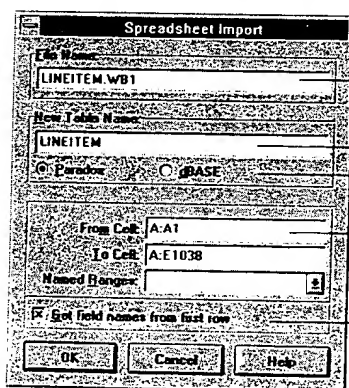
- Type the file name (including the full path) in the File Name text box.
- Use the Drive Or Alias list and the Directories tree to choose a different directory.
- Choose Aliases to open the Alias Manager dialog box and create an alias for a directory or remote database. (Creating aliases is discussed in Chapter 3.)

Choose the source file you want, then choose OK. What you see depends on the type of file you chose to import data from.

Importing from spreadsheets

If you choose to import data from any of the supported spreadsheet formats, you'll see the Spreadsheet Import dialog box, shown in Figure 10.9.

Figure 10.9 The Spreadsheet Import dialog box



The spreadsheet that contains the data you want to import.

The name of table you want the data imported to.

The table type of the new table.

Type the range of cells or choose the named range that contains the values you want to import.

Use the top row of the spreadsheet as column headers for the table.

Determining field types

When you import data from a spreadsheet, Paradox automatically assigns a field type to each column of data. Table 10.3 shows how Paradox determines a field's type.

Table 10.3 Spreadsheet field type conversions

Spreadsheet value	Paradox field type	dBASE field type
Labels	Alpha	Character
Numbers (integers)	Short	Float number (5,0)
Numbers (with decimal places)	Numeric	Float number (20,4)
Numbers (formatted as money)	Money	Float number (20,4)
Numbers (formatted as dates)	Date	Date

These rules determine which field type a column falls into:

- Any column that contains a label (text) cell is converted to an alpha field (or character field if you import to a dBASE table).
- A column containing both dates and numbers is converted to an alpha field (or character field if you import to a dBASE table).
- A column containing only values that are formatted as money is converted to a money field in a Paradox table.
- A column containing both money and number values is converted to a number field.

As a result of these conversion rules, Paradox often imports numbers in unedited spreadsheets as alpha fields. For example, spreadsheet columns often have rows of hyphens separating sections of numbers. Since only an alpha field can contain both the numbers and hyphens, the column is converted to an alpha field even though it contains mostly numbers.



You can select only a specific block in the spreadsheet to import. In the Spreadsheet Import dialog box, enter the range you want in the From Cell and To Cell text boxes, or choose a named range of cells from the Named Ranges list. (Named ranges are available only if you create them in the source spreadsheet.)

To avoid conversion problems, edit the spreadsheet data before importing it. This eliminates any ambiguities. Follow these steps:

- 1 Remove extraneous entries (such as hyphens, asterisks, and exclamation points).
- 2 Make sure each column contains only one kind of data and uses only one formatting option.
- 3 Place column titles in the top row of the selected range, because Paradox uses the first row that contains text to generate field names. (If there are no column titles on the spreadsheet, uncheck the Get Field Names From First Row check box in the Spreadsheet Import dialog box.)

If the table doesn't have the format you want after you import it, you can restructure it in Paradox.

Determining field names

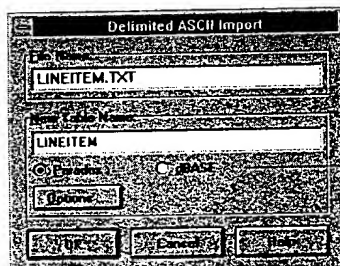
Paradox uses the first row of imported data that contains text to determine field names. If Paradox can't determine a field name from the imported file, it generates new field names beginning with the name FIELD001. Additional new field names are numbered (FIELD002, FIELD003, and so on).

If more than one field seems to have the same name, Paradox numbers the duplicate fields (for example, Customer1 and Customer2).

Importing delimited text

If you want to import data from a delimited text file, choose the file you want in the File Import dialog box, and choose <Delimited Text> from the File Type drop-down list. Paradox opens the Delimited ASCII Import dialog box, shown in Figure 10.10.

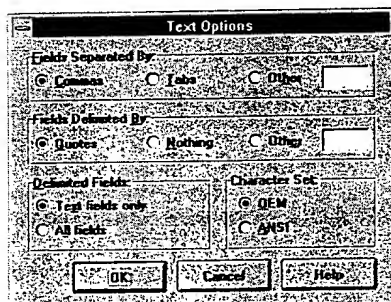
Figure 10.10 The Delimited ASCII Import dialog box



You can import delimited ASCII files into either Paradox or dBASE tables.

By default, Paradox expects the fields in the ASCII file to be separated by commas, with quotation marks surrounding each text field. You can tell Paradox how to interpret the file by choosing Options in the Delimited ASCII Import dialog box. Paradox opens the Text Options dialog box, shown in Figure 10.11.

Figure 10.11 The Text Options dialog box



- Use the Fields Separated By panel to identify the character that separates field values in the source file.
- Use the Fields Delimited By panel to identify the characters that surround values in the source file.

- Use the Delimited Fields panel to choose whether you want to delimit all possible fields from the source file or only text fields with quotation marks (or the character you specify in the Fields Delimited By panel).
- Use the Character Set panel to choose either the OEM or ANSI character set.



Information on character sets is provided in the Paradox Help system. Search for the subject "international issues."

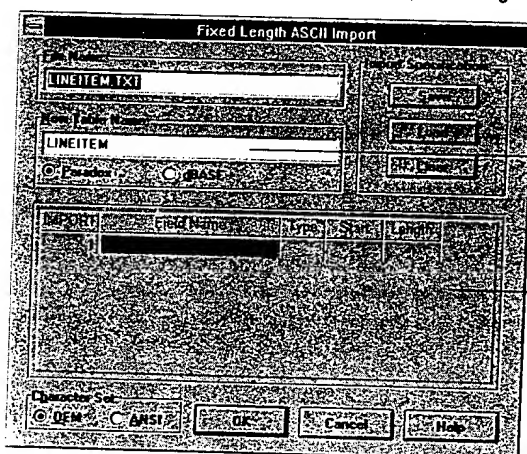
When you import a delimited text file, Paradox scans the file to determine the number of fields and the field types the file contains. Paradox then creates a new table, using the name you entered in the New Table Name text box of the Delimited ASCII Import dialog box, and imports the data into it.

Paradox trims strings longer than 255 characters. It stores these as alpha fields.

Importing fixed-length text

When you choose <Fixed Length Text> from the File Type drop-down list in the File Import dialog box, Paradox opens the Fixed Length ASCII Import dialog box, shown in Figure 10.12.

Figure 10.12 The Fixed Length ASCII Import dialog box



You can change the directory location or name of the resulting new table.

Use the table image to specify the structure of the new table.

Enter the name you want the new table to have in the New Table Name text box.

Choose whether the new table is created as a Paradox or a dBASE table.

When you import a fixed-length text file, Paradox creates the temporary IMPORT.DB table in your private directory. In the Fixed Length ASCII Import dialog box, use the *Import* table to define the field names and types of the fields in the new table. For each field name, enter a Start position (the column where you want the field value to begin) and a Length (the field size).

You can use the Import Specification panel to work with the *Import* table. You can

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- Choose Save to save the *Import* table settings you specify to a new table that you name. (Although the *Import* table is deleted when you exit Paradox or change your private directory, you can save the table's settings permanently.)
- Choose Load to load the settings from a previously saved *Import* table.
- Choose Clear to clear the settings displayed in the *Import* table.

When you finish specifying the structure of the new table, choose OK. Paradox imports the data from the source to the new table you named in the New Table Name text box of the Fixed Length ASCII Import dialog box.

Using DDE or OLE

Paradox provides two easy ways for you to access data from other Windows applications: Dynamic Data Exchange (DDE) and Object Linking and Embedding (OLE).

The application that is the source of the data is called the *server*. The application that receives the data is the *client* (or, in OLE 2.0, the *container*). Paradox is capable of being both a DDE server and a DDE client. Paradox is both an OLE 2.0 server and container.

Use DDE to send field values from a Paradox table to other applications, or to send data from other applications to a Paradox table or query.

Use OLE to embed files from an OLE server into Paradox. When you place data into Paradox using OLE, you can then access the OLE source application directly from Paradox to make any changes you want. You can also use OLE 2.0 to embed an entire Paradox table into another application's document.

Using Paradox as a DDE server

When you take data from Paradox and place it in another application, you are using Paradox as a DDE server.

Note You can use Paradox as a DDE server only from a Table window.

Suppose you have a spreadsheet that performs a series of calculations on a value. The value on which you want to perform the calculations is in a field of a Paradox table.

Copy a field from a Paradox table to the Windows Clipboard. Then, in the DDE-client spreadsheet, use Paste Link to place the field in the appropriate spreadsheet cell. You don't place an actual value in the spreadsheet; you use DDE to tell the spreadsheet where to look for the value.

As you move through the records of your Paradox table, the values in the spreadsheet change because the value in the field is different for different records. The spreadsheet displays the field value for the selected Paradox record.

For example, suppose you want to place a Paradox field's value in a cell in a Quattro Pro for Windows spreadsheet. The following example shows how to do this using the sample *Orders* table.

- 1 In Paradox, open the *Orders* table. Select the first record's Total Invoice value.

Table: ORDERS.DB

ORDERS	Order No.	Customer No.	Sale Date	Ship Date	Ship VIA	Total Invoice
1	1,007.00	1,221.00	4/3/88	4/5/88	UPS	\$7,320.00
2	1,002.00	1,231.00	4/5/88	4/15/88	UPS	\$10,154.00
3	1,003.00	1,351.00	4/12/88	4/23/88	UPS	\$6,885.00



- 2 Click the Copy to Clipboard Toolbar button. Paradox places the value on the Clipboard.
- 3 Open Quattro Pro for Windows. Select a notebook cell and choose Edit | Paste Link.

Quattro Pro for Windows

File	Edit	Block	Data	Tools	Graph	Property	Window	Help
Normal								
NOTEBOOK1.WB1								
Total Invoice								
\$7,320.00								

Quattro Pro stores information about the DDE link.

The field name and the selected field value appear in notebook cells.

- 4 To see how DDE works, place your Paradox window and your Quattro Pro window together on the screen.

The notebook cell shows the value that you select in the Paradox table. As you move through values in Paradox, DDE updates the notebook cell.

The image shows a Paradox for Windows window titled "Paradox for Windows". The menu bar includes File, Edit, View, Table, Record, Properties, Tools, Window, and Help. The toolbar contains various icons for file operations, editing, and viewing. The main area displays a table named "ORDERS.DB". The table has six columns: "ORDERS", "Order No.", "Customer No.", "Sale Date", "Ship Date", "Ship VIA", and "Total Invoice". There are three records in the table. The first record has a total invoice of \$7,320.00, the second \$10,154.00, and the third \$6,885.00. The status bar at the bottom indicates "Record 1 of 224".

ORDERS	Order No.	Customer No.	Sale Date	Ship Date	Ship VIA	Total Invoice
1	1,007.00	1,221.00	4/3/88	4/5/88	UPS	\$7,320.00
2	1,002.00	1,231.00	4/5/88	4/15/88	UPS	\$10,154.00
3	1,003.00	1,351.00	4/12/88	4/23/88	UPS	\$6,885.00

Record 1 of 224

Select the Total Invoice field in Paradox and press the ↑ and ↓ arrows to move through invoice values. Notice how the value shown in the notebook cell in Quattro Pro changes to display the Total Invoice value in the currently selected Paradox record.

In Quattro Pro, you can create calculations that use the value from Paradox. As the DDE value is updated, the calculated result is updated along with it.

Note You can use DDE to place Paradox fields in any type of application that is a DDE client. Not only spreadsheets, but word processors, and a wide variety of other applications can accept Paradox field values through DDE.

You don't have to limit yourself to linking one field at a time to a DDE client. You can use Edit | Select All, followed by Edit | Copy in Paradox and Edit | Paste Link in the DDE client, to link an entire table to a DDE client.

Disconnecting a link

When you use Paste Link to link a DDE value into an application, Paradox checks the View | Notify On command. When View | Notify On is checked, the link is "live." This is why, when you select a different value in the Paradox table, DDE can update the DDE client.

To disconnect the link, uncheck View | Notify On. You can then move through the table's records without activating DDE. You can reconnect at any time by checking View | Notify On.

When you link an entire table to a DDE client, the client is refreshed every time you change a record in the table. Uncheck View | Notify On if you want to make several changes without notifying the client. As soon as you check View | Notify On again, the DDE client is updated with all the changes.

Note The DDE client might allow you to disconnect a DDE link in a similar way. Refer to your DDE client documentation for information on how it handles DDE links.

Using Paradox as a DDE client in queries

A common use of Paradox as a DDE client is to use values from another application and perform queries on them in Paradox.

You can also use a Paradox table as a DDE server and a Paradox query as a DDE client. For example, a linked field can run a query (the DDE client). When the field value changes in the source table (the DDE server), Paradox generates an updated *Answer* table.

Suppose you want to run a separate query for each customer in the sample *Customer* table:

- 1 Open a Query window and add the *Orders* and *Lineitem* tables to it.
- 2 Construct a query that looks like this:

Query: <Untitled>					
LINEITEM.DBF	Order No.	Stock No.	Selling Price	Qty	Total
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ORDERS.DBF	Order No.	Customer No.	Sale Date	Ship Date	Ship Via
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Customer table can have many records in the *Orders* table that match it. This is a one-to-many relationship.

Creating a link

Once you've placed the tables you want to link in the data model panel, you must create the link between them.



This section describes using the Define Link dialog box to link two Paradox tables. For information on linking dBASE tables, search online Paradox Help for the subject "dBASE tables" and the topic "dBASE Linking Combinations."

Note You cannot create a link on a memo, formatted memo, graphic, OLE, binary, byte, or logical field. This is because you cannot create an index on these field types.

If you've established referential integrity between the two tables you're linking (see Chapter 4 for information about referential integrity), Paradox automatically links them according to the referential integrity specification.

For example, to link the sample *Customer* and *Orders* tables,

- 1 Open the Data Model dialog box.
- 2 Double-click CUSTOMER.DB and ORDERS.DB in the File Name list. Paradox places the tables in the data model panel.

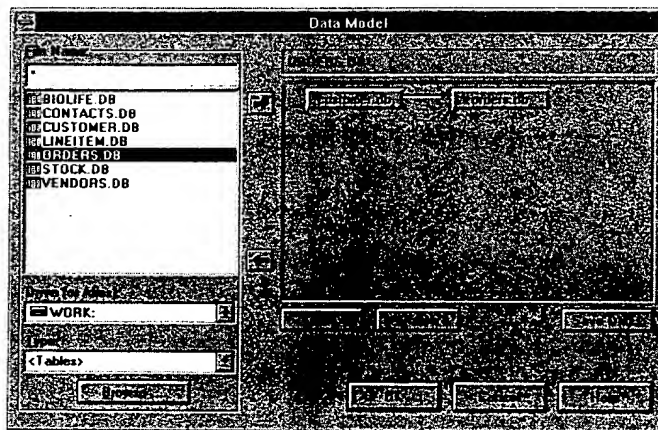


When you pass the pointer over a table in the data model panel, it changes to a linking tool (shown at left).

- 3 Click *Customer*. This is the master table. You create a link by holding down the left mouse button and drawing a line from the master to the detail table.



- 4 Drag from *Customer* to *Orders* (the detail table). Paradox recognizes the referential integrity established between the two tables and links them on their Customer No fields.



Suppose you *don't* have referential integrity between the two tables you're linking. In that case, you create the link you want using the Define Link dialog box.

Note Because all the sample tables use referential integrity, you need to create a new table to use in this example.

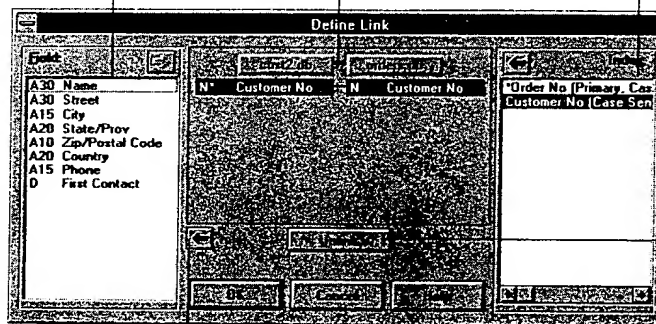
- 1 Copy *Customer* and name it CUST2.DB. Copying tables is discussed in Chapter 3.
- 2 Open the Data Model dialog box.
- 3 Double-click CUST2.DB and ORDERS.DB in the File Name list. Paradox places the tables in the data model panel.
- 4 In the data model panel, click and drag from *Cust2* to *Orders*. You'll see a line between the two tables.

- 5 Release the mouse. Paradox opens the Define Link dialog box.

All fields from the master table are shown. Choose the field to use in the link.

The arrow appears when you choose fields. It shows you the link. This double arrow means that this is a 1→M link from *Cust2* to *Orders*.

Primary keys and secondary indexes are shown for the detail table. Choose the one to use in the link.



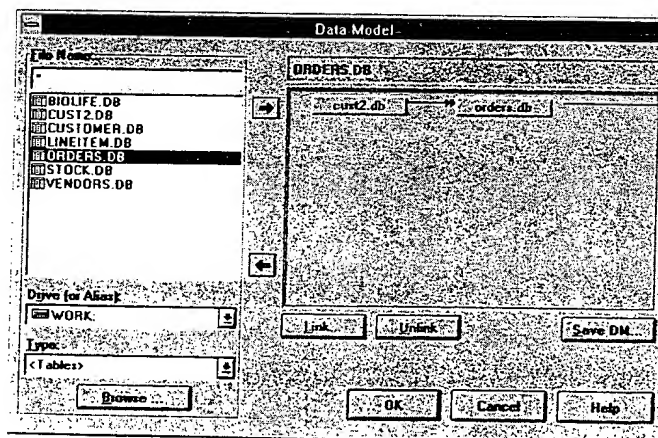
Choose Unlink to unlink the tables.

Click the arrow to remove a field from the diagram.

- 6 Paradox places *Customer No* below the *Cust2* table in the link diagram panel of the dialog box. This is the *Cust2* table's key, and the field on which Paradox creates a default link.
- 7 Paradox places *Customer No* below the *Orders* table in the link diagram panel. If the detail table has an index that matches the primary index (key) of the master table, Paradox uses it.

Paradox draws a line between the field and the index and places a double-headed arrow between the two table names.

- 8 Choose OK to accept the link. Paradox returns you to the Data Model dialog box.



When the Define Link dialog box disappears, Paradox shows the linked tables in the data model panel. You can add and link more tables, or choose OK to close the dialog box.

Automatic links in the Define Link dialog box

The preceding example shows an automatic link created by Paradox in the Define Link dialog box. If there is an obvious choice of fields to link on (such as a match between the key field of the master table and an indexed field on the detail table), Paradox opens the Define Link dialog box with the link already created. You can either accept or override this choice. Choose OK to accept it, or choose Unlink to unlink the automatic link and manually create a new one.

Manually linking tables

Paradox shows all fields from the master table in the Field list of the Define Link dialog box.

Choose the field you want to link on. It appears below the table name in the link diagram panel of the dialog box. If Paradox finds an index of the detail table that matches the name and type of the field you've chosen, it completes the link for you. If no name and type match is found, Paradox uses the first index of the detail table that matches in type. You can choose another index to replace the automatic choice.

The Index list shows all predefined maintained indexes (and the type of index) for the detail table. The table's key (its primary index) is marked with an asterisk (*). All fields of a composite key are displayed linked with a dash and marked with an asterisk (*). For example, the composite key of *Lineitem* is listed as *Order#-Stock#. The table's secondary indexes are listed after the key.

Choose the index you want to use for the detail table. It appears below the detail table name in the link diagram panel of the dialog box. If you're using a composite key or index on the detail table, choose fields from the master table to match some or all of the fields in the index. If you use a composite key or index and match all its fields, Paradox creates a 1→1 link. Otherwise, Paradox creates a 1→M link.

Previewing the link

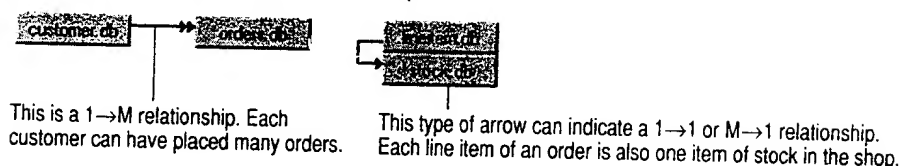
After you choose a matching field from the master table and an index from the detail table, Paradox creates a link between the two and previews the data model in the link diagram panel. If you want a different link, click Unlink and choose a different field or index.

When you choose OK, you accept the link and return to the Data Model dialog box. The data model panel now shows the tables linked.

The data model shows what type of a link exists between the tables. If two tables are side by side, with a double-headed arrow between them, it indicates a multi-value relationship. The direction of the arrow shows the direction of the link (master→detail).

If one table is stacked below another table, with an arrow joining them from their sides, it shows a single-value relationship.

Figure 12.5 1→M and 1→1 relationships



Removing or modifying a link

To remove an existing link, select the detail table in the data model panel and choose Unlink.

Whenever you want to change the way two tables are linked, right-click the arrow or select the detail table and click Link to display the Define Link dialog box. From there, choose Unlink to break the existing link, then specify the link you want.

Saving a data model

Once the data model is the way you want it, you can choose to save it and use it for other design documents or queries. From the Data Model dialog box, choose Save DM. Paradox opens the Save File As dialog box, shown in Chapter 3. Paradox saves the data model with the .DM file extension.

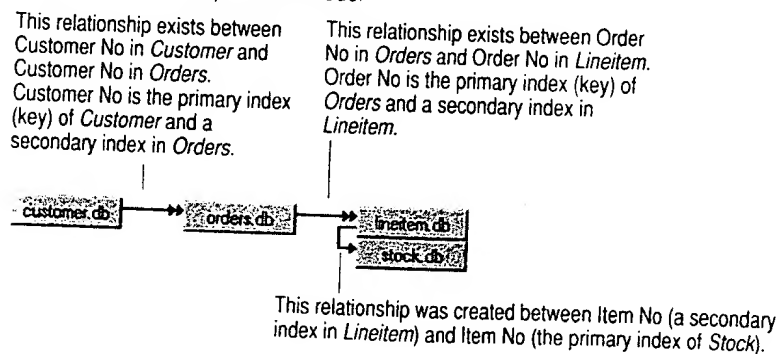
You can use saved data models to create new forms, reports, and queries, or as a starting point in creating new data models. You can define a saved data model as a reference data model for all your other data models. See "Using the Data Model Designer" later in this chapter.

Note

Building complex data models

You can keep linking tables to the existing data model until you have the data model you want. As long as you have identified indexes properly, you can build data models that are as complex as you need them to be. Figure 12.6 shows a data model for some of the sample tables provided with Paradox.

Figure 12.6 A complex data model



Using

Figure 15.15 Viewing the calculated total

Order No	Stock No	Selling Price	Qty	Price * Qty
1,001	1,320	\$171.00	5	\$855.00
1,002	2,341	\$105.00	35	\$3,675.00
1,003	1,314	\$365.00	5	\$1,825.00
1,003	2,390	\$420.00	12	\$5,040.00

Paradox multiplies the Selling Price value by the Qty value for each record in the table.

You can create a calculated field that calculates the total of *all* line items, rather than the total of individual records. To generate the total of all line items in a given scope (see "Understanding scope" earlier in this section) you could use the expression `SUM([LINEITEM.QTY] * [LINEITEM.SELLING PRICE])`. Figure 15.16 shows a single-table form, so the scope of the calculated field is the whole *Lineitem* table.

Figure 15.16 Calculating the total of all line items

Order No	Stock No	Selling Price	Qty	Total
1,001	1,313	\$250.00	4	\$1,000.00
1,001	3,340	\$395.00	16	\$6,320.00
1,002	1,314	\$365.00	7	\$2,555.00
1,002	1,316	\$341.00	9	\$3,069.00
1,002	1,320	\$171.00	5	\$855.00

`SUM([LINEITEM.QTY] * [LINEITEM.SELLING PRICE])` \$3,142,962.35

The field label shows the expression used to generate the total price of all line items in the sample *Lineitem* table.

Note The expression shown in Figure 15.16 does not generate the same result as the expression `SUM([LINEITEM.QTY]) * SUM([LINEITEM.SELLING PRICE])`. The expression shown in Figure 15.16 creates a "total" value for each record by multiplying the quantity by the selling price. It then adds all these totals together. The expression `SUM([LINEITEM.QTY]) * SUM([LINEITEM.SELLING PRICE])` adds all quantities, then adds all selling prices, then multiplies the results of the two additions.

Earlier in this section, calculating the sum of all invoice totals from the *Orders* table multiplied by a sales tax of 7.75% was discussed. The expression `SUM([ORDERS.TOTAL INVOICE]) * .0775` was used. When you use a calculation to generate the total value this way, you can then multiply it by a constant. For example, you can calculate the sum of all line item totals (in a given scope) and multiply that by a sales tax of 7.75% using the expression `SUM([LINEITEM.QTY] * [LINEITEM.SELLING PRICE]) * .0775`.

Calculating with alpha strings

You can use the + operator to combine alpha strings. For example, suppose you want to create a field called Address that combines the values of the Street, City, State, and Zip/Postal Code fields for the sample *Customer* table.

- 1 Create a form using the *Customer* table as the data model.
- 2 In the Design Layout dialog box, choose the Blank style.

- 3 In the Form Design window, use the Table tool to place a table frame with three columns.
- 4 Inspect the first field in the table frame. Choose Define Field and choose Customer No from the menu that appears.
- 5 Inspect the middle field in the table frame. Choose Define Field and choose Name from the menu that appears.
- 6 Inspect the third field in the table frame. Choose Define Field and choose the ellipsis (...) to open the Define Field Object dialog box.
- 7 In the Define Field Object dialog box, type the calculation [Customer.Street] + " " + [Customer.City] + ", " + [Customer.State/Prov] + " " + [Customer.Zip/Postal Code]. The + sign is the concatenation operator. It appends one string to the end of another. (You must type the spaces and commas you want inserted between fields within quotation marks.) Choose OK.
- 8 In the Form Design window, Paradox displays the word "formula" in the calculated field object.
- 9 Type the word Address as the calculated field's label.

When you run the form, Paradox combines the values from the four fields into the one calculated field.

Customer No	Name	Address
1510	Ocean Paradise	PO Box 8745 Kailua-Kona, HI 94756
1513	Fantastique Aquatica	232 999 #12A-77 A.A. Bogota,
1551	Marmot Divers Club	872 Queen St. Kitchener, Ontario G3N 2E1
1560	The Depth Charge	15243 Underwater Fwy. Marathon, FL 35003
1563	Blue Sports	203 12th Ave. Box 746 Giribaldi, OR 91187
1624	Makai SCUBA Club	PO Box 8534 Kailua-Kona, HI 94756
1645	Action Club	PO Box 5451-F Sarasota, FL 32274

Paradox combines the values from the four fields for each record of the table, inserting spaces and commas where you placed them in the calculated expression.

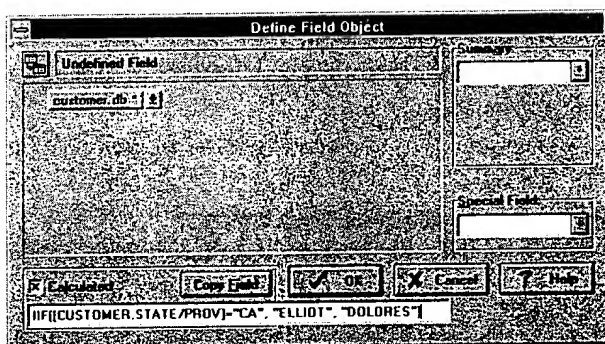
Calculating with ObjectPAL methods

You can use certain ObjectPAL methods as part of your field calculations. Most methods that involve numeric or alpha strings are available in calculated fields. Any ObjectPAL expression that evaluates to a single value is valid in a field calculation.

To use ObjectPAL in a calculated expression, you can type the ObjectPAL method directly into the calculated field text box in the Define Field Object dialog box.

Using an ObjectPAL conditional expression, you can evaluate a field value to see if it meets a condition, then return a value based on the condition. For example, suppose you want a sales representative to visit all the customers in the sample *Customer* table. One sales representative (named Elliot) will visit those customers in California, and another (named Dolores) will visit all customers outside of California. You can create a calculated field that returns a different value (Elliot or Dolores) based on the contents of each record's State/Prov field. Use the *immediate if* ObjectPAL construct to create the expression `IIF ([CUSTOMER.STATE/PROV]="CA", "ELLIOT", "DOLORES")` as shown in Figure 15.17.

Figure 15.17 A conditional expression



This expression tells Paradox to return the string "ELLIOT" when the field value is CA, and to return the string "DOLORES" when the field value is anything else, as shown in Figure 15.18.

Figure 15.18 Viewing the results of a conditional expression

Name	State/Prov	Phone	Sales Rep
Stamarian Dive Ltd	CA	213-555-0422	ELLIOT
Diver's Grotto	CA	213-555-1909	ELLIOT
Fisherman's Eye	Grand Cayman	809-555-4680	DOLORES
Action Diver Supply		809-555-6917	DOLORES
Manna SCUBA Cent		58-33-66222	DOLORES
Blue Glass Happiness	CA	213-555-1984	ELLIOT

Paradox evaluates the State/Prov value and returns the appropriate value as a result of the conditional expression.

You can also use alpha string methods, date methods, numerical methods, and custom methods in calculated expressions. For more information on using ObjectPAL in calculations, refer to your ObjectPAL documentation.

Using tables

A table design object is a collection of other objects; this gives you flexibility in customizing it to be the perfect display of your data.

Resizing columns

Resize a column by clicking and dragging its right grid line in the header area. You can't resize a column to be narrower than its header.



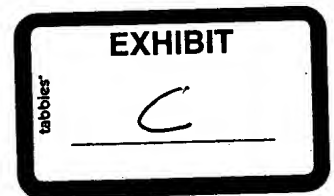
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

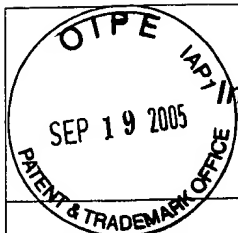
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/698,905	10/27/2000	Patrick D. McDonald	00,500	8219
32097	7590	08/25/2004	EXAMINER	
LESAVICH HIGH-TECH LAW GROUP, P.C.			THOMPSON JR, FOREST	
SUITE 325			ART UNIT	
39 S. LASALLE STREET			PAPER NUMBER	
CHICAGO, IL 60603			3625	

DATE MAILED: 08/25/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.





Interview Summary

Application No.

09/698,905

Applicant(s)

MCDONALD, PATRICK D.

Examiner

Forest Thompson Jr.

Art Unit

3625

MT

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) Forest Thompson Jr.

(3) _____

(2) Steve Lesavich (312-332-3751)

(4) _____

Date of Interview: 23 August 2004

Type: a) ☒ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference

c) ☐ Personal [copy given to: 1) ☐ applicant 2) ☐ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☐ Yes e) ☐ No.

If Yes, brief description: _____

Claim(s) discussed: _____

Identification of prior art discussed: Paradox Manual

Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☐ was reached. g) ☐ was not reached. h) ☐ N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: See Continuation Sheet

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.

Forest Thompson
Examiner's signature, if required

Summary of Record of Interview Requirements

Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), Section 713.04, Substance of Interview Must be Made of Record

A complete written statement as to the substance of any face-to-face, video conference, or telephone interview with regard to an application must be made of record in the application whether or not an agreement with the examiner was reached at the interview.

Title 37 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1.133 Interviews

Paragraph (b)

In every instance where reconsideration is requested in view of an interview with an examiner, a complete written statement of the reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action must be filed by the applicant. An interview does not remove the necessity for reply to Office action as specified in §§ 1.111, 1.135. (35 U.S.C. 132)

37 CFR §1.2 Business to be transacted in writing.

All business with the Patent or Trademark Office should be transacted in writing. The personal attendance of applicants or their attorneys or agents at the Patent and Trademark Office is unnecessary. The action of the Patent and Trademark Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. No attention will be paid to any alleged oral promise, stipulation, or understanding in relation to which there is disagreement or doubt.

The action of the Patent and Trademark Office cannot be based exclusively on the written record in the Office if that record is itself incomplete through the failure to record the substance of interviews.

It is the responsibility of the applicant or the attorney or agent to make the substance of an interview of record in the application file, unless the examiner indicates he or she will do so. It is the examiner's responsibility to see that such a record is made and to correct material inaccuracies which bear directly on the question of patentability.

Examiners must complete an Interview Summary Form for each interview held where a matter of substance has been discussed during the interview by checking the appropriate boxes and filling in the blanks. Discussions regarding only procedural matters, directed solely to restriction requirements for which interview recordation is otherwise provided for in Section 812.01 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, or pointing out typographical errors or unreadable script in Office actions or the like, are excluded from the interview recordation procedures below. Where the substance of an interview is completely recorded in an Examiners Amendment, no separate Interview Summary Record is required.

The Interview Summary Form shall be given an appropriate Paper No., placed in the right hand portion of the file, and listed on the "Contents" section of the file wrapper. In a personal interview, a duplicate of the Form is given to the applicant (or attorney or agent) at the conclusion of the interview. In the case of a telephone or video-conference interview, the copy is mailed to the applicant's correspondence address either with or prior to the next official communication. If additional correspondence from the examiner is not likely before an allowance or if other circumstances dictate, the Form should be mailed promptly after the interview rather than with the next official communication.

The Form provides for recordation of the following information:

- Application Number (Series Code and Serial Number)
- Name of applicant
- Name of examiner
- Date of interview
- Type of interview (telephonic, video-conference, or personal)
- Name of participant(s) (applicant, attorney or agent, examiner, other PTO personnel, etc.)
- An indication whether or not an exhibit was shown or a demonstration conducted
- An identification of the specific prior art discussed
- An indication whether an agreement was reached and if so, a description of the general nature of the agreement (may be by attachment of a copy of amendments or claims agreed as being allowable). Note: Agreement as to allowability is tentative and does not restrict further action by the examiner to the contrary.
- The signature of the examiner who conducted the interview (if Form is not an attachment to a signed Office action)

It is desirable that the examiner orally remind the applicant of his or her obligation to record the substance of the interview of each case. It should be noted, however, that the Interview Summary Form will not normally be considered a complete and proper recordation of the interview unless it includes, or is supplemented by the applicant or the examiner to include, all of the applicable items required below concerning the substance of the interview.

A complete and proper recordation of the substance of any interview should include at least the following applicable items:

- 1) A brief description of the nature of any exhibit shown or any demonstration conducted,
- 2) an identification of the claims discussed,
- 3) an identification of the specific prior art discussed,
- 4) an identification of the principal proposed amendments of a substantive nature discussed, unless these are already described on the Interview Summary Form completed by the Examiner,
- 5) a brief identification of the general thrust of the principal arguments presented to the examiner,
(The identification of arguments need not be lengthy or elaborate. A verbatim or highly detailed description of the arguments is not required. The identification of the arguments is sufficient if the general nature or thrust of the principal arguments made to the examiner can be understood in the context of the application file. Of course, the applicant may desire to emphasize and fully describe those arguments which he or she feels were or might be persuasive to the examiner.)
- 6) a general indication of any other pertinent matters discussed, and
- 7) if appropriate, the general results or outcome of the interview unless already described in the Interview Summary Form completed by the examiner.

Examiners are expected to carefully review the applicant's record of the substance of an interview. If the record is not complete and accurate, the examiner will give the applicant an extendable one month time period to correct the record.

Examiner to Check for Accuracy

If the claims are allowable for other reasons of record, the examiner should send a letter setting forth the examiner's version of the statement attributed to him or her. If the record is complete and accurate, the examiner should place the indication, "Interview Record OK" on the paper recording the substance of the interview along with the date and the examiner's initials.

Continuation of Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: Mr. Lesavich called to discuss the Final Rejection mailed 03/11/2004. Examiner and Mr. Lasavich discussed claim 1 and the application of prior art (specifically, Paradox) to reject the claim. Examiner indicated that if the claim indicated the function of "automatically" in the claim language with other changes that were discussed to distinguish the claimed aspects over Paradox, another search would be required. Mr. Lesavich indicated that he would file an amendment with an RCE that includes these changes.



SEP 19 2005

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/698,905

10/27/2000

Patrick D. McDonald

00,500

8219

32097

7590

10/22/2004

LESAVICH HIGH-TECH LAW GROUP, P.C.
SUITE 325
39 S. LASALLE STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60603

EXAMINER

AKERS, GEOFFREY R

ART UNIT

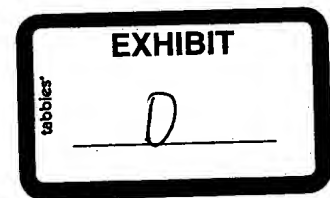
PAPER NUMBER

3625

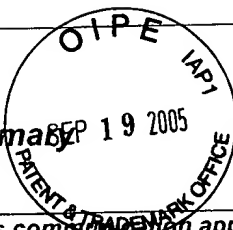
DATE MAILED: 10/22/2004

Doc

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



Office Action Summary



Application No.

09/698,905

Applicant(s)

MCDONALD, PATRICK D.

Examiner

Geoffrey Akers

Art Unit

3625

NW

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 September 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Request for Continued Examination(RCE)

1. This action is issued in reply to applicant's request for Continued Examination(RCE) filed 9/9/04.

2. Claims 1,3-8,10-12,18,25 were amended. No claims were deleted. None were added.

3. Claims 1-26 as amended, are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. Claims 1-7,10-11,25-26 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by "User's Guide, Borland Paradox for Windows" Borland International, Inc. v5.0 1994(Paradox). The rejection as cited in the Final Office Action dated 3/11/04 is maintained and referenced.

.....
Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. Claims 8-9,12-24 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over "User's Guide, Borland Paradox for Windows" Borland International Inc. v5.0 1994 (Paradox) in view of Official Notice. The rejections as cited in the Final Office Action dated 3/11/04 are maintained and referenced.

.....
Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

6. Claims 2,13,20 are rejected under 35 USC 101 has failing to provide a concrete, useful and tangible output.

.....

Response to Arguments

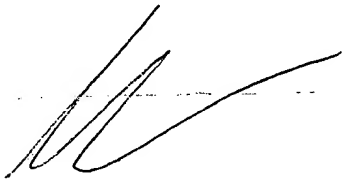
7. Applicant's arguments are not persuasive. Applicant has amended the rejected claims solely with the means of automation and distinct formats. Automating a known process is not a basis for novelty. Obtaining information and data electronically encompasses the feature of automatically performing the operation. In the words of the claims, a "plurality of formats" includes a "plurality of different formats" by its multiplicity. rejection.

Conclusion

8. **THIS ACTION IS MADE NON-FINAL.**

Questions concerning this communication should be addressed to the examiner of record, Dr. Geoffrey Akers, P.E., who can be reached between 6:30 AM and 5:00 PM Monday through Thursday at 703-306-5844. If examiner cannot be reached, the superior, Mrs. Wynn Coggins, SPE, may be telephoned at (703)-308-1344.

October 19, 2004



10/19/04

DR. GEOFFREY R. AKERS, P.E.
PRIMARY EXAMINER

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